

# BLACK PILL

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UP IN ARMS  
TO DEFEND  
M U M I A  
ABU-JAMAL

ALSO THIS ISSUE:  
ANTI-PRISON FEDERATION PRO/CON -  
THINKING POLITICS ON  
THE REAL - DEFENDING  
THE FC - WORLD NEWS



## WHAT IS BLACK FIST?

Black Fist is a newspaper produced by the Black Fist Collective. The Black Fist Collective is a grouping of people who support revolutionary forms of anarchism/anti-authoritarianism as a realistic means for achieving freedom, justice and liberation for all people.

## WHAT IS ANARCHISM?

Anarchism calls for the abolition of all forms of government based on the belief that such forms of authority are oppressive and against the interests of freedom. This belief extends to the abolition of all forms of authoritarianism and oppression, including (but not limited to) economic deprivation, imperialist war and ideologies such as fascism, Leninism and capitalism.

Within the anarchist movement, there different kinds of anarchists. Mutualists wish to see society based on small groupings working together by a mutual exchange of goods, services and credit which still allows the individual to enjoy the fruit of her/his labor. Collectivists believe in a socialist form of mutualism where production is based more on the collective good than individual possession, but still allows for individual product. Anarcho-syndicalists support a class-conscious labor movement, where workers from all walks of life come together to fight for a new society by means of economic warfare, such as general strikes, and political reorganization for the working class. Individualists hope for a world based on individuals working together and observing an abstract form of justice, such as the "social contract." Anarcho-communists, or class war anarchists, support communally shared resources and, ultimately, revolutionary overthrow of the existing empire through confrontation with the State. Auto-homists share beliefs of Karl Marx as well as anti-authoritarian philosophies and are a distinct tendency in the anarchist movement.

While these are only very general definitions, anarchism itself is often undefined and varied. Learn more.

## BLACK FIST ORGANIZED

The Black Fist Collective is not a formal membership organization. Black Fist supports and encourages non-statist radical political, social, economic and liberation organizing. Strategies such as organizing dual institutions and working toward the repair of oppressed communities are part of the larger movement for freedom and justice.

Black Fist supports struggles against all forms of authority and oppression, including genocidal tools such as prisons, poverty and occupation police forces; ideologies like colonialism, white supremacy, homophobia and sexism; and the ruling class which divides people and turns them against one another — rural poor versus urban poor, workers against the unemployed and on many other levels.

The Black Fist Collective is primarily made up for class war anarchists, but welcomes all those down for liberation and democratic and egalitarian freedom to discuss, debate and get involved with the paper and movement. Despite all the ideas presented here, the Black Fist Collective is not a laundry list group or one with the all-correct political line or statement — We want to encourage ideas and debate. The struggle for justice will always come before dogmatism and ideology, and we support different battles and invite the involvement of many people of many beliefs. Unity through solidarity is our strength.

## EDITORIAL STATEMENT

The Black Fist newspaper welcomes all input and viewpoints from its readers, including counterpoints to articles presented. All readers are encouraged to submit letters, art and articles for publication in Black Fist. All articles published are not necessarily the opinion of the Black Fist Collective. Submissions do not necessarily have to be to the collective's political agreement for publication.

## BLACK FIST

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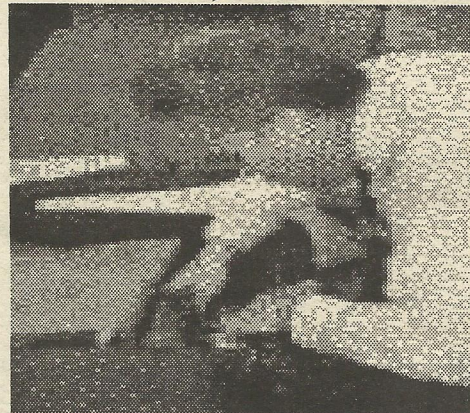
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# Pig tales: politics, terrorism and the FC

As of late, some anarchists and anarchist-oriented publications have come out to publicly denounce the Freedom Club (FC), a clandestine group opposed to industrialism and credited by federal police as the "Unabomber." As the talk goes on, lots of interesting things have surfaced.

Some accept the police claim that the FC is actually a lone individual. For example, issue #5 of *The Blast* states: "Dept. of White Guys Saving the World: some dolt is blowing up professors, ad execs and other class enemies thru [sic] the mail." Likewise, issue #53 of *Slingshot* refers to the group claiming responsibility as "he" and "him" — otherwise accepting the government's claim that it is a lone white male behind the bombings. Accepting police "research" or "investigation" as fact is dangerous as well as stupid. Police, locally and federally, show Us every day why they are not to be trusted but in fact despised.

Until proven otherwise, why would one not accept the description of the FC of itself in favor of believing what the FBI says? Why anyone would buy the FBI's story because it's uncovered "evidence" is beyond me. Isn't this the same bureau that created disinformation to discredit, frame (on charges for which many still sit in jail) and murder members of the Black Panther Party, politicized youth street organizations and the Republic of New Afrika in the 1960s, the American Indian Movement, Black Liberation Army and the Revolutionary Armed Task Force in the 1970s, the Committee in Solidarity with the People of El Salvador in the 1980s and Quibilah Shabbaz in the 1990s? The FBI's come out on more than one occasion with all sorts of "evidence" of boogymen, only to be proven a liar later. It's like getting data on a painting from an art-hater with glaucoma.



Searching through bags at a California airport.

Read Brian Glick's *War At Home*, Mumia Abu-Jamal's *Live From Death Row* or Jim Vander Wall and Ward Churchill's *Agents of Repression* if you want to see the point.

Terrorism is not about creating a movement nor necessarily social change — no individual or group with a grasp of history has ever promoted it as the only means of overthrow or as the most effective means of social change. Terrorism's about fear and disruption — striking fear in enemies and disrupting the social order. Ain't pretty, ain't PC — it's straight up bringing class war off the t-shirts and into the homes. Too many quasi-left theorists assume every act is to be to the greater benefit of some omnibus "movement" instead of what bombs could be — out-and-out retribution.

Traditional leftists commit terrorism to embolden "the masses" or on behalf of the masses; the FC has already stated its purpose for attacks: "The answer is simple: Anger. Why are We so

angry? You would do better to ask why there is so much anger and frustration in modern society generally." There are larger issues here.

A few months ago, a bomb claimed by the Jewish Armed Resistance Movement destroyed the home of Canadian neo-nazi Ernst Zundel. Presumably, had Zundel been killed, few would have made a fuss about the "vanguardism" of such an act. No one leaps up mad about the Zundel bombing since it's easier to marshal the trendy types to cheer a nazi's death than support or debate acts against those whose support of the system is more complex. If so, then We ought look at Ourselves first before ranting about the awfulness of direct action against those exploiters.

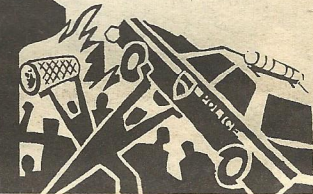
Some will claim that, once one class enemy is gone, "there is always another one right there to take his place" falters in analysis. If one is gone and another shows up, only to fall as well, it's part of a protracted struggle — ethics or not. The pacifist/live-and-let-live view is not even worth hashing out here; this is about fighting back by any means necessary. If Our enemy chooses to kill Us by all means, do We react by tying one hand behind Our backs? Do so if you want but i won't, nor will i cheer you to martyrdom.

Bombings will bring repression upon aboveground activists, but so does activism. As militant movements grow, the State in virtually every country and instance has sought to snuff all movements in its quest for control. Even when the strength a movement has is only magnified by a paranoid nation, repression is still sure. Fool yourself all you want, but recognize that the State, the cops and right-wing vigilantes will use any excuse — real or fabricated — to crush a radical movement given the chance.

—Frank

mail and  
discussion

## WORD TO THA STREET



### Pig psychology

Dear fellow anarchists and interested folks,

I just wanted to speak a bit about authoritarian "pig" personalities as it applies to our Texas prison guards' hierarchical establishment. After six years in one of Texas' most decrepit little concentration camps, I have acquired a wealth of observations from which to expound upon.

A few years back, I read a great book by a New Freudian psychologist named Erich Fromm. The name of the book escapes me now, but I know Mr. Fromm was a Socialist, most likely of the libertarian variety. One part of this particular work dealt with what Fromm called sadomasochistic personality disorders and related how these disorders are frequently found in hierarchical settings such as bureaucracies. Living in such an environment, I used Fromm's sadomasochistic theoretical framework for observational purposes of my own. A rubric!

The sadomasochistic personality disorder can be broken into two parts for explanation but need not be separated since a prison may have both aspects, according to Fromm.

Socialism is not relegated to overt physical sorts of cruelty, but denotes a genuine desire of one individual to have total control over another individual. In hierarchical systems, this translate into the people at the top of the heap or at each consecutive level dominating and handing out a rash of shit to those just beneath them in the hierarchical

ladder.

There again masochism in this sense basically means sucking up or being an obsequious brownnose to those of higher rank on the ladder.

The combination of these traits equals in a person essentially someone who is a real control freak and shit dealer to all those of a lower "station" in life and sucks a lot of ass to those the next rung up the shit ladder.

This concept has some pretty heavy implications in the macroeconomic sense with global capitalism and evil statist political hierarchies, but there are plenty of examples of this sort of behavior in the microcosm of my daily life to observe in the prison "boss" hierarchy so well in the non-class conscious inmate populace.

The boss class in here snitch on each other and cut each other's throats to scramble over one another to get to the top of the heap while keeping their noses crammed extremely far up the ass of their immediate supervisors. Of course, being a convict, we at the low end of the totem pole and receiving much sadistic behavior from the boss class, we no doubt gave those masochistic personality types among the inmate populace. No doubt socialization in an authoritarian capitalist society sets the stage early on for this type of personality disorder.

Many cops come to work here by sheer economic compulsion and are anxious to join the militaristic, flat-top, sporting ran-and-file authoritarians who draw their salaries from the

"tax" base, a.k.a. the State's gravy train. Some of these folks are fairly benign type individuals who don't fuck with people too badly like many of the really asshole cop types.

But for many who start out benign, unobtrusive guards, it doesn't take much to push them over the edge into the robocop mode.

Something about militaristic setup of prison guard environments brings out the most fascist traits in these people. Something about having the whole political state behind them and the acute realization that they have the upper hand, not to mention that they can be downright rude and nasty without worry seems to be most chauvinistic, inhuman, patronizing, haughty and abusive characteristics in the most parasitical "boss class."

No matter what the reason these "state pupes" comes to work here for, or sort of behavior they exhibit while they are here, they all play an important role as purveyors of human misery but but-tressing up the capitalist political state which exploits everything which is right! They are the tools of oppression and should be regarded as such. It is time to remove the foot of authoritarian oppression from our collective neck whether it be in the "free world" minimum security prison or in the maximum ones like I'm in.

Unite in anarchist solidarity for the social revolution,  
Kevin Glover  
Texas prisoner

## Just In: 10,000 Kurdish POWs begin hunger strike

Since July 14, over 10,000 Prisoners of War from Kurdistan have started an indefinite hunger strike in Turkish prisons to protest the war Turkey has fought against the Kurdish people in trying to remove them from their lands. The hunger strikers demand a dialogue for a political solution to the war; observation of the Geneva Convention; an end to killing of civilians, summary executions, torture in prisons and the burning of villages; all war prisoners in jails must be classified as POWs; all military operations designed to destroy the Kurdish people must be stopped; the UN and the Red Cross be sent to monitor the war in Kurdistan and prison conditions.

Kurdistan Committee of Canada, 2487 Kaladar Ave. Suite 203, Fax: (613) 733-0090, Ottawa, Ontario, K1V 8B9.

On Dec. 17, 1995, in Cincinnati, OH, the Ku Klux Klan will attempt to erect a cross in that city's town square. Be there to take a stand against racists and their ideology of hate. For information, contact:

Midwest Antifascist Network  
Box 19614  
Cincinnati, Ohio 45219  
(513) 852-9332



# INTERNATIONAL MOVEMENT NEWS AND NOTES

## As 70 percent boycott polls, Haitians discuss failures of voting and elections

During the week following the elections, while political parties and officials argued over whether or not the process was "free and fair," *Haiti Info* asked members of the democratic and popular movement who did not support the elections process to explain their positions.

A member of Tet Kole ti Peyizan, a national peasant movement dating back to 1973 and remembered in part for the brutal massacre of over 100 members on July 23, 1987, in Jean Rabel, said: "For Tet Kole, as always, our priority is not elections. Our priorities are the demands of the popular masses, especially the small peasants who are always exploited, since the demands of this sector are never respected."

The representative explained that in many rural areas, peasants don't have schools, health care, access to drinking water. Some farmers are so poor and the environmental degradation so bad, he said, "they collect rocks to sell by the truckload, and those rocks were drywall barriers from their own land that they are obliged to sell, so the land continues to erode and end up in the ocean." They are also cutting down avocado and other trees for charcoal.

"Every time elections are held, the situation has never changed," he said. "All those reasons that made us say, 'What credibility, what hope do peasants have in elections?'"

Regarding the process, the Tet Kole member noted he had heard "a big quantity of people" who were not able to vote because they could not find

the office. In Jean Rabel, elections were cancelled altogether.

"These elections are part of a global project the imperialists have for the country which they have already started," said a health worker, who wished to remain anonymous.

The health worker said she felt the elections and installation of a parliament is meant to institutionalize the status quo of reconciliation, no justice and neoliberalism, and said that she thinks the majority of the population is not aware of what was really at stake.

"The foreign observers witnessed and ended up accepting all these irregularities... and in effect legalized everything because, whether the elections were done well or not, that is not important. What was important was that they were done at all. That's their agenda," she said.

Assemblée Populaire Nationale (APN), which openly opposed the elections and printed leaflets telling people to "Stay At Home on June 25!" issued a press release on June 27 condemning the "dirty elections" and noting that the majority, 70 percent, of the voting age population stayed away from the voting booths.

"This garbage is one more proof to make the Haitian people understand that the Americans, the Macoutes, the bourgeoisie and the petite bourgeoisie who are selling the country off have only one interest - fool the people, lie to the people, exploit the people," the release said.

Information from *Haiti Info*.

## Notes from the Black Fist Collective

• Black Fist has received numerous requests for the text of the **Goldfront Project**, a joint action alert issued with the Amistad-March 31 chapter of N'COBRA. Those requesting it will find that text in this issue of the paper. Further requests regarding Goldfront and AM31 can be sent to Black Fist or AM31.

• The **Direct Action Manual** is still a project of the collective and it needs your support. The DAM is to be a book which will cover anti-authoritarian organizing strategies, action organizing, street knowledge and more. Please send all submissions on direct action by postal or electronic mail to the collective.

## Italian police shut down anarchist-oriented computer network

When members of Italy's Carabinieri Anti-Crime Special Operations Group raided the homes of a number of people in Rovereto and Trento from the local Self-Managed Social Centre 'Clinamen,' some of those raided were also active in the Italian anarchist movement.

The warrant from the Rovereto court spoke of 'association with intent to subvert the democratic order' (art.270 bis CP), a charge which carries a very heavy penalty for those convicted of 7 to 15 years imprisonment. The absurdity of the

charge speaks for itself.

Confiscated in the raids were journals and magazines, leaflets, diaries, notebooks and video tapes, all of which was either publicly available or else for strictly personal use. Also confiscated was the personal computer which hosted 'BITS Against the Empire', a node in the Cybernet and Fidonet networks. Stored on the computer was a vast number of documents concerning the social use of new technologies, Italy's Self-managed Social Centres and independent music production, along

## Anti-Fascist Militia sends devices to

On April 4, the Anti-Fascist Militia sent armed mousetraps, primed with razor blades, to Canadian fascist Ernst Zundel, Richard G. Butler of Aryan Nations, Terry Long of Aryan Nations-Canada, George Burdi of Resistance Records, Tom Metzger of White Aryan Resistance, Don Black of Stormfront, Dr. E. R. Fields of *The Thunderbolt*, Aurora, Colorado's Skrewdriver Services, Vancouver's Aryan Resistance Movement and Mission (Canada)'s Aryan Resistance Movement.

These 10 groups/individuals have shown in their actions over the years to be totally committed to violent racism, anti-Semitism and homophobia. They are all actively engaged in recruiting others to their cause.

They are at the heart of the neo-Nazi movement.

This brand of fascism is not new. From lynch mobs who murdered black men and women in Amerikkka to neo-Nazi skinheads who murdered a lesbian and a gay man in Portland, individuals who have held this fascist ideology have always sought to use violence to enforce it. Many people have died, and people will continue to die unless the individuals who are totally committed to this ideology of hatred are stopped.

For those who do not understand why we are willing to use violence to fight these bigots, we draw an analogy to Nazi Germany - the state so many of these



## Irish revolt over killer cop's release

Northern Ireland's 10-month peace faced its sternest test July 4 as Irish nationalists took to the streets and burned cars to protest against the freeing of a soldier released after two years of a life term for murder.

Police said youths hijacked vehicles into the early hours as the worst unrest since last year's twin guerrilla cease-fires ushered in peace went on into the early hours.

A total of 140 vehicles were hijacked and torched to demonstrate nationalist and Catholic fury at the British government's freeing of Lee Clegg, a paratrooper jailed for shooting a Catholic teenage girl while on patrol.

The violence spread overnight to the border towns of Newry, Coalisland, Armagh and

Dungannon but petered out about an hour before dawn, police said.

British and Irish leaders, anxious to keep moves towards lasting peace alive, were taken aback by the extent of the unrest, which erupted 10 months after Catholic and Protestant guerrilla called cease-fires to give politics a chance.

The Irish Republican Army and their pro-British Protestant foes stayed off the streets during disturbances, which was confined to mainly Catholic districts of the province.

British Prime Minister John Major brushed aside Northern Irish Catholic politicians' allegations that it was a political decision which smacked of double standards because the prisoner was a soldier.

## Berkeley celebrates July 4th right

50 people came up to Peoples Park in Berkeley to have their own little celebration on this country's independence day, July 4th.

TVs were smashed to symbolically show the U.S. of American brainwashed culture and it's addiction to the TV. Also some flags were put on fire to defy this country and all it's oppressive activities home and abroad.

The celebration moved down to Telegraph, where many more TVs were smashed in the intersection blocking traffic and creating a huge crowd in which many cheered. Someone dumped a huge bucket of squished oranges to create a delightful smell withering throughout all of Telegraph.

Many police shortly arrived and brought an end to the TV smashing and American flag burning at the intersection although somehow some of the oranges violently jumped up and smashed

themselves against police vehicles.

Come next year to participate in the activities!  
—riotwommmyn

**IMMIGRANT ORGANIZING...** Organizations and individuals throughout South and Southwest Florida to help plan a convention to build a broad, grassroots movement against anti-immigrant legislative and ballot initiatives.

Immigrants are primarily hard workers, creators of wealth for U.S. businesses. Yet politicians and others are blaming immigrants for social and economic problems immigrants did not create.

For information, contact the **Committee for Dignity and Justice for Immigrants, P.O. Box 431577, South Miami, FL 33243 1577.** call (305) 825-3446 or email at [diskart@gate.net](mailto:diskart@gate.net)

## bigots: "This is only the beginning"

fascists are trying to bring about in North Amerikkka.

It can't happen here? Tell that to the innocent men, women and children who are harassed, beaten, and killed by racist police every day, tell it to the indigenous people of this continent who continue to live under the iron fist of colonial occupation, tell it to the gay men murdered in Toronto by the recruits of the individuals who received our devices.

Tell it to the millions of people who suffer under the boot of racist governments in KKKanada and the United States of Amerikkka. The racist governments we live under will never stop individuals such as Burdi,

cyberspace) or the role of moderators (cibersbirri), preferring instead to restore to each individual their own responsibility and their own freedom of action and thought.

Measures of support and requests for further information can be sent to:

Internet: [lpaccagn@riscl.gelso.unitn.it](mailto:lpaccagn@riscl.gelso.unitn.it)

Bitnet: [lpaccag@itncisti](mailto:lpaccag@itncisti)

European Counter Network: Luc Pac 45:1917/2.1

Cybernet: Luc Pac 65:1400/6

Long, Butler, Metzger, et al. It is our responsibility, as citizens of these countries, to do what we can to put an end to their reign of terror.

We don't expect that these organizations will immediately cease their activities in response to our threats. So take this first wave of devices as a declaration of war. Until we see evidence that these 10 organizations have stopped their fascistic activities, they, and others like them, will need to watch their backs, their homes, their cars, their mailboxes, their offices, their food. This is only the beginning.

No Justice - No Peace  
More to come from the Anti-Fascist Militia



# Anarchist Black Cross federates to build prison abolition movement

The following are the recently approved bylaws for the federation of the anti-prison group Anarchist Black Cross:

The Federation is composed of the following formations. A brief description of each will be followed with a detailed explanation.

## A. Committee of Prisoners

Consisting of 5 P.P./P.O.W.'s who have shown interest in supporting and participating in ABC work. They will provide leadership, direction, knowledge and advice to the Federation.

## B. Coordinating Committee

Consists of 2 elected delegates from each Branch Group.

## C. Branch Group (ABC-B.G.)

The Branch Group is the foundation on which success of the Federation relies. The Branch Group must consist of people who are in it for the long run and down for the whole thing. The Branch Group can not be a fly by night organization, it must be a fixture of the Federation, able to withstand the test of time. A test which ABC and others have not been able to pass. This is why there is a criteria an ABC formation must meet in order to be considered a Branch Group.

## D. Prisoner Solidarity Committee

Political formation within prison not necessarily of anarchist ideology, but wishing to promote aims and goals of the Federation within the prisons.

## E. Support Group (ABC-S.G.)

ABC groups without the desire, ability or resources to become a Branch Group, or any other group/individual wishing to support the aims and goals of the Federation.

### Purposes & Responsibilities of Formations:

#### A. Committee of Prisoners

##### 1) Purpose:

One of the failures of modern anarchist groups

is that they fail to take guidance and direction from those they are trying to organize or aid. Be it workers, welfare families, oppressed nationalities or in this case, prisoners. Many anarchists go into an area with a chauvinistic attitude and attempt to force their personal idea of "what is correct" on those they are trying to help. For example, an ABC group receives a request from a P.P./P.O.W. for pornographic material. The ABC refuses the request then severs its ties with the P.P./P.O.W. Only taking into account their personal belief towards pornography, without trying to understand the position the prisoner is in. Another scenario is when the ABC group finds that the P.P./P.O.W. has very different views on religion, nationalism, etc, etc, and they distance themselves from that prisoner. This does not happen as often as it once did, but the attitude still permeates throughout the anarchist scene.

By taking the advice and leadership from those we seek to aid, chauvinistic and unprincipled actions which permeate the left would be greatly diminished.

The Committee of Prisoners would be a body of 5 P.P./P.O.W.'s who have shown the most interest in seeing this project grow. This body would help provide leadership, direction, knowledge and advice to the Federation.

#### 2) Responsibilities of the Committee of Prisoners:

- Voting on policy and proposals of the Federation.
- The 5 members each get individual votes.
- Helping confirm the legitimacy of prisoners claiming P.P. status.
- Helping allocate funds of the "War Chest Program" toward P.P./P.O.W.'s
- Submit and/or help develop proposals
- Provide leadership/direction

#### B. Coordinating Committee

##### 1) Purpose:

Each Branch Group elects 2 delegates to serve on the Coordinating Committee. The Coordinating Committee delegates represent their

branch and the Federation. They are a link between their branch as well as other branches, Support Groups and Prison Solidarity Committees. Each Coordinating Committee member must serve no less than 6 months in their Branch Group before becoming eligible to serve as a delegate.

#### 2) Responsibilities of the Coordinating Committee:

- Stay in communication with other Coordinating Committee members
- Stay in communication with Support Groups and Prison Solidarity Committees
- Contact person for Emergency Response Network
- Attend conferences

#### C. Branch Group (ABC-B.G.)

##### 1) Purpose:

The Branch Groups make up the foundation of the Federation. Their purpose is to propagate and support the goals and aims of the Federation, form coalitions with other Political Prisoner support groups in their area, hold events fund raisers, etc.

#### 2) Responsibilities of the Branch Groups:

- Consistent support of Federation goals and projects
- Fund raising
- Propaganda distribution
- Elect 2 members to Coordinating Committee
- Submit bimonthly reports to Federation newsletter
- Encourage formation of political bodies within prison (Prisoner Support Committee)
- Encourage formation of Support Groups (ABC S.G.'s)
- Encourage and aid existing S.G.'s to become Branch Groups.
- Building regional phone tree for E.R.N.
- Attempt to implement as many points of Lorenzo Kom'boa Ervin's 15 point proposal as possible

#### 3) Criteria for Becoming a Branch Group

To open a branch of the ABC Federation the formation must meet the following criteria:

- Each Branch Group commits a reasonable amount to the War Chest Program monthly. It is important for us to commit some "out of pocket" funds.
- Members of formation must have history of ongoing consistent prison related work they can present to the Federation
- Formation must have maintained the active mailing address for at least 12 months
- Formation must adopt and be attempting to implement Kom'boa's 15 point proposal
- Each B.G. need to dialogue respectfully with all individuals involved, and deal with criticism open and honestly.

#### D. Prisoner Solidarity Committee's

##### 1) Purpose:

Formation of prisoners (not necessarily imprisoned for political action) who support goals of Federation. Their purposes include:

- Help facilitate distribution of revolutionary literature within the prisons
- Provide and give suggestions to improve ABC Federation
- Connects prisoners to and allows them to take part in outside work
- Encourages formation of political bodies within prisons

#### E. Support Groups (ABC-S.G.)

##### 1) Purpose:

The purpose of Support Groups is to both strengthen the Federation and strengthen the Support Group. By networking with the Federation, the Support Group links up to P.P./P.O.W.'s and those in the prison movement who can offer the Support Group aid, knowledge and experience.

Support Groups strengthen the Federation by spreading and supporting the goals and projects of the Federation and possibly becoming a Branch Group.

#### 2) Types of Support Groups:

4 S.G. categories can be:

1. Newly formed ABC formations. After 12 months of consistent work their group can be admitted as a Branch Group (if meeting the criteria and approved by Branch Groups and Committee of Prisoners)
2. ABC Formations that do not wish to be a Branch Group or do not have the resources or capabilities to become one
3. Individuals (especially those in isolated areas) who wish to support the Federation.
4. Groups and individuals who don't consider themselves anarchists, but support the goals and programs of the Federation.

#### By Laws:

- All having anything to do with the Federation should be in agreement with the 15 point draft proposal for an ABC drafted by Lorenzo Kom'boa Ervin

- Members of this Federation are/can be members of other anarchist groups, but this Federation is a distinct entity.

- ABC groups becoming a part of this effort should adopt the common ABC and type of groups acronym (Branch Group B.G. - or Support Group S.G.) as a affix, and their locality as a prefix. The use of names that could cause the prisoners, political formations and the masses in general to take us less seriously should certainly be avoided.

- People/groups can be expelled from the Federation based on by-laws and 2/3 vote of entire Federation.

**For information: New Jersey ABC  
Box 8532, Haledon, NJ 07508-8532**

Welfare Warriors, the Milwaukee-based activist group of mothers in poverty (with chapters now in Albany, San Diego, and Suffolk County, N.Y.), has successfully raised \$30,000 of the \$45,000 needed to buy a building for their planned national Mothers Organizing Center. This would provide both organizing space and an office for *Welfare Mothers Voice*, their excellent national newspaper.

Contributions of any size are welcomed: **Welfare Warriors Organizing Center, 4504 N. 47th St., Milwaukee, WI 53218. Or call 414-444-0220 for more information.**

## International Day Against Police Violence organizing for Nov. 2

On Nov. 2, Australia's Barricade Books and Info Centre are organizing an International Day Against Police Violence and are seeking participation from activists all over the globe. Internationally, police violence and complicity

with right-wing violence is increasing, from German cops' attacks on activists to U.S. police brutality to Japanese police assaults on the homeless.

The activists encourage organizing locally to participate in this international action!

**Barricade Books and Info Centre  
115 Sydney, Brunswick 3056  
Melbourne, Australia  
email:  
Barricade.exchange@apana.org.au**

## Germans decline to open trial against antiracists

Despite 115 files of information provided by the State Prosecutor (GSA) in Celle, the State Supreme Court (OLG) in Celle decided not to open a trial against the militant antiracist group Autonome Antifa (M). After a request by the OLG to the State Interior Ministry for more information on the "so-called deescalation strategy," this information has since been made available.

The Interior Ministry concludes that the deescalation strategy is due to the politics of the Autonome Antifa (M). Publishing its demonstration concepts, the Autonome Antifa (M) has started a new form of political discourse. There have never been any negotiations between Autonome Antifa (M) and the police; nonetheless, the published calls for demonstrations are taken to be a form of quasi-announcement to the police. As for the legality of the police conduct, representatives of the State Prosecutor were present during all discussions of police intervention. The police were

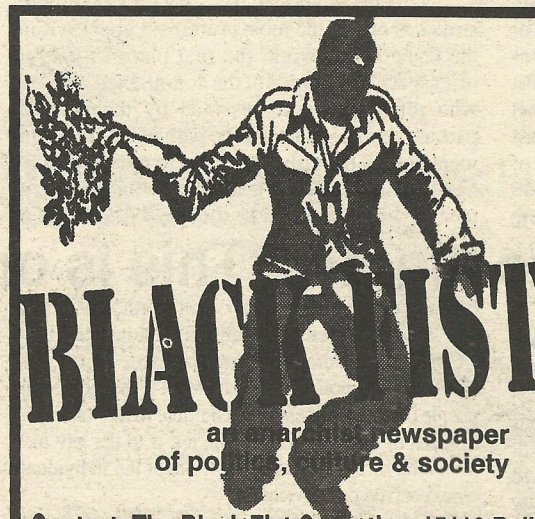
required by the Federal Supreme Court to stay back during demonstrations. It was not a matter of Göttingen having become a lawless area.

The GSA has tried to prosecute the Autonome Antifa (M) as a "criminal organization" on the basis of violations of laws regulating demonstrations and the alleged coercion of police. According to the Interior Ministry, the charges being pursued against 17 people for "membership in a criminal organization" (Paragraph 129), namely the Autonome Antifa (M), are absurd.

The extremely legalistic arguments being presented by the GSA and the massive wave of

investigation undertaken by the State Criminal Office (LKA) have been an attempt to destroy the politics of Autonome Antifa (M) by any means possible. It seems increasingly unlikely that the isolated GSA will be able to do this via political or judicial means.

**Autonome Antifa (M)  
c/o Buchladen  
Rote Strasse 10  
37073 Göttingen  
Germany**



**Contact: The Black Fist Collective, 15110 Bellaire #317, Houston, Texas 77083, USA**

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### Reach out and smash a fascist

Canadian fascist Ernst Zundel, author of numerous Holocaust denial leaflets, leader of the extreme-right Heritage Front and the north's most notorious nazi, has a new toll-free info hotline. It is 1-800-960-9554.

Zundel needs donations, especially after the bomb/arson attack credited to the Jewish Armed Resistance Movement. He is rebuilding his home and headquarters and replacing a high-speed photocopier and office furniture, files and books. Those who'd like to chat it up at Führer Zundel's expense are advised that such activities, while "illegal," should only be executed from payphones or similar sources.



# I HAVE A DREAM

By Ana Lucia Gelabert

Often I ask myself what I would do if, for whatever reasons, political power suddenly fell in my lap — like following a successful revolutionary movement. Still, with today's societal characteristics, virtues and faults, except what the revolutionary upsurge by need would have to have changed. What would I do to solve America's problems inherited from the bourgeois capitalist era? This is not a literary essay by a political and economic one. Here's what I would do:

**A. By a stroke of my pen, I would end homelessness on day one:** housing all homeless people in empty rooms in hotels — starting from the most luxurious ones — while more permanent housing is found or built.

**B. At once, I would end most unemployment** by adding a fifth shift to 24 hour run industries, while raising those hourly wages by 19 percent; and by lowering weekly work hours from 40 to 33.5 and lowering daily work hours from eight to 6.5 while raising those hourly rates by 17 percent. This way, this now-employed will still make 91 percent of current wages while unemployment is virtually solved.

**C. No hospital, clinic, health care facility, private physician, dentist or other health practitioner can refuse admission or treatment to anyone who needs it:** this simply complies with the Hippocratic Oath. Later on we will argue, debate and decide just who pays for what and how, but meanwhile innocent human life takes precedence above all else.

**D. Some general justice and economic adjustment provisions are in order:** all home mortgages older than 15 years are to be considered paid up; residential rents are reduced by 40 percent and, after 20 years' occupancy, the renter acquires title to the dwelling; utilities need to be prorated, so, for example, up to 400 kwh monthly costs only four cents per kilowatt — the opposite of what we see now; the same provisions should apply for gas and oil for heating and cooking. Reasonable un wasteful use deserves reasonable rates, while wasteful use deserves stiff rates.

Of course, much more can be done, but how much of today's human misery and suffering across America would the above four simple measures eliminate? And without really hurting anyone. After 15 years, the lending institution has recovered 150 percent of the average loan — less than the 300 percent collected after 30 years, but not exactly a loss. After 20 years, the average landlord has re-

covered more than her/his investment. *No one has lost.* The wealthy still retain their wealth of industries, banks, businesses and money. However, unemployment, homelessness and the permanent bankruptcy and paycheck-to-paycheck anxiety in which most Americans live today are things of the past.

"But that will bring up inflation!" holler the well-to-do. Inflation is the nightmare of those who speculate in cash. Since all else hedges itself and rises in value correspondingly with inflation — not so with cash — that means bonds and preferred stocks. I answer, trying to placate: "Not really, Mr. Richwig. People who yesterday were starving are now able to buy food, those without jobs now have well-paying jobs. It's simply a matter of justice." But our Richwig is not impressed: "You incompetent Bolshevik! You'll ruin the nation, spoil everything and bring back inflation, you'll see! Don't give me any of that commie-anarcho-Bolshevik hogwash — it's inflammatory!"

Actually, I can solve the inflation problem once and for all, but... are you sure you want this, Richwig?" No answer. "Oh well, so here we go, but don't say I didn't warn you!"

**E. All public debt — city, county, school district, state and federal — is hereby canceled** — "Too late — I told you so!" To exempt "mom-and-pop" retirement, exemptions go up to \$100,000 total (including all bonds) per individual, \$200,000 per married couple. One corporation equals one individual. The surviving indebtedures will be converted to federally guaranteed cost-of-living indexed savings accounts earning 2 percent interest.

"And now who's left to care or complain about inflation? I told you I could solve the problem for good."

"But, but, you've ruined me!"

"Not really, Mr. Richwig. You still have your industries, your banks, your luxury homes, actually *everything* except public funds, except your snout slurping wealth off the public trough."

"This is communism, you red-anarcho-Bolshevik!"

"Not really, Mr. Richwig. This is christianism. Read Luke 6: 'Blest are the you who hunger, you shall be filled. Blest are you who are weeping, you shall laugh.' Hear me now — ha ha ha!"

"I'm ruined — it's the end! I'll close all my factories. I'll fire all my ungrateful workers, that's what!"

"Oh please, Mr. Richwig, don't do that! Please stay and run your industries and your businesses. Please don't leave your luxury home. Stay and be one of us in this Earth

which the poor has inherited — please!" No use. There goes Richwig to exile. Oh well. Here we go again:

**F. Any private enterprise whose owners have abandoned or whose owners have threatened closing, declaring it unprofitable, or who are subjecting people to decapitalization and disrepair shall henceforth become the property of the workers of that industry, who thereafter will equate it as a cooperative.**

"Goodbye, Richwig. We'll sure miss you." Poor Richwig. He'll survive I guess. Maybe now he'll become homeless, then benefit when the Revolution reaches whatever place he is going. But this might become a real problem if all Richwigs and, more importantly, all of their Richwig technocrats were to leave at once! Urgent measures are needed: in L.A., this calls for a some 4,000 strong "technical task force" which would solve whatever professional unemployment remains and create a TTF of physicians, engineers, scientists, accountants, secretaries and all sorts of other college graduates which, at latest, three months from now can take over any enterprise and keep it running on short notice if need be. So, time's a-wasting!

And now we indeed have a Revolution, so there's no stopping. Without a national debt, we no longer have to pay \$400 billion a year interest. And the only army is a people's militia, so we save some \$250 billion in excess military expansion. That's \$650 billion:

1) Build five million quality new homes per year, solving all housing problems in 12 years: **\$200 billion.**

2) **Comprehensive mass transit system nationwide:** intercity air-rail-bus and citywide rail-bus, providing frequent, affordable, safe mass transportation to 94 percent of the population within 10 year: **\$40 billion.**

3) **20 million college scholarships**, including tripling the number of students in medical schools, providing university education for all who want one: **\$100 billion.**

4) **Comprehensive health care to all**, including central unified medical and pharmaceutical research, doing away with profit-led competition and high prices of drugs, and with unreasonably high hospital costs: **\$250 billion.**

5) **Nutritious breakfast and lunch in school to 40 million elementary and high school students on each school day:** **\$20 billion.**

6) Professional, reliable, affordable child day care to eight million infants 0-5 years of age: **\$10 billion.**

7) and I still have \$30 billion left! I guess

I'll split it half-and-half: One half to modernize American industry and create new jobs. And one half to renewable source electric generation, so in 10 years not less than 25 percent of national electrogeneration will be hydro, solar, wind, biomass and ocean thermal (today, it's 53 percent coal, 3 percent oil, 10 percent gas, 21 percent nuclear, 11 percent hydro and 2 percent from other sources) and at least 30 percent of transportation vehicles are fueled by electricity and alcohol (Today, it's nearly 100 percent oil.)

And now I'm out of money. That's just from interest on *national* debt (not including city, county, school district, state or prison construction debt — a separate category due to size!) and excess military spending. After the first 10-year plan, we will have another \$240 a year to invest! And we have so many places to invest it. Improved agricultural techniques and labor-saving machinery — maybe a real boon in agricultural robotics! More industrial automation and more robots. More electronic gadgets and more robots in medicine, in the home, and in schools everywhere!

We humans no longer have to fear robots or automation. These used to mean unemployment, layoffs, hunger, misery... but no more; now these mean less physically strenuous tasks, shorter working hours and more leisure time. Capitalism taught us to hate and fear automation, computers, robots as our enemy. But now that our one real enemy, capitalism, has been defeated, I love my robots and my robots love me! Computers are my friends.

Seriously folks, I may have made some mistakes of wishful thinking in the above daydream fantasy about Revolution. But, even so, isn't that *by far* a much better world than the nightmarish world the likes of Speaker Gentrish, Speaker President Dole, President Clinton, Pat Robertson, Buchanan and the rest of the fascist clique now misgoverning ameriKKKa have in store for us? Spending more on prisons, police brutality and other fascist violence than in education? Taking food off the hungry to fill up the trough in which the rich slurp off the nation's wealth? Offering no hope whatsoever for a better life, now or ever?

Wake up, poor and oppressed of America. Rebellion is not bad — it's good. It's right to rebel and throw off the fascist bums.

Ana Lucia Gelabert is a committed activist incarcerated in the Texas prison system. You can send her letters of support by writing: Ana Lucia Gelabert, #384484, 9055 Spur 591, Amarillo, Texas 79107.

# from daydreams to realities as a matter of justice



# In Houston, organizing for ex-Black Panther Abu-Jamal kicks off strong

People in Houston have been working non-stop to speak out on the case of Mumia Abu-Jamal since the formation of a new group to confront the upcoming execution of a former Black Panther, writer and activist in August.

Mumia Abu-Jamal is a Pennsylvania political prisoner who's been on death row for 13 years

for a crime he did not commit. In 1982, he was sentenced to die for allegedly killing a cop, although much evidence points to his innocence. It is this evidence, as well as the highly political nature of his trial and the previous FBI attacks against him in the 1960s, which have rallied many people to

his defense. Abu-Jamal is scheduled to die in a Pennsylvania prison on Aug. 17.

The climax of Houston actions will be a demonstration for freedom for Mumia Abu-Jamal on **Saturday, August 12** at 1 p.m. on Main and Dallas in downtown Houston. In addition, on

**Wednesday, August 16**, there will be a public reading of Abu-Jamal's book on prison experiences and on political issues, *Live From Death Row*. The weekend closes **Sunday, August 12** when a Houston contingent heads to Philadelphia to be at the frontlines in the struggle to free Mumia.

Building up to this, there are a series of

events, including tables and information distribution, sending and setting up speakers to talk with groups, networking to build a strong voice for freedom and much more. The Organizing push kicks off at Ramona Africa's speech at the SHAPE Community Center.

To get involved with organizing activities, come to a meeting, held Saturdays at 3 p.m. at the Allen Parkway Village Community Center (Allen Parkway and Valentine) or call 845-7730. You can do either of those also if you want to get fliers to distribute, wish to join the caravan to Philly, or want to get involved in other ways to inform people about Mumia Abu-Jamal's case.

## HOUSTON REPRESENTS

local actions for Mumia Abu-Jamal

**Fri., July 21, 7:30 p.m.:** Ramona Africa of MOVE, an organization Mumia supports and for which he struggled to expose police attacks on, speaks in Houston at the SHAPE Community Center.

**Sat., Aug. 12, 1 p.m.:** PROTEST TO SAVE MUMIA! Downtown Houston, Main at Dallas.

**Sun., Aug. 13:** Freedom Summer Caravan heads to Philadelphia — Slogan from one march: "If Mumia burns, Philly burns!"

**Wed., Aug. 16:** A reading from passages of Abu-Jamal's book, *Live From Death Row*

for more Mumia Abu-Jamal local updates, call 845-7730.

## Grim Reapers picket the hanging judge

On July 15 — the hottest day of the summer so far — a group of about 20 protesters dressed as Grim Reapers congregated in the quiet suburban Mt. Airy neighborhood where Judge Sabo lives.

Representing the "Death Workers International Union," we ascended from the netherworld to picket at Judge Sabo's house. We distributed information to Sabo's neighbors about Mumia Abu-Jamal's case and Sabo's complicity in Abu-Jamal's frame-up. Sabo was the judge who presided over Abu-Jamal's 1982 trial and death sentence.

Sabo has sentenced more than 31 people to death during his miserable career. In the past week, Judge Sabo has proven everything correct that Mumia's supporters have said about him since the original trial. He in fact appears to be going beyond the insane measures he went to initially to kill Mumia.

The Grim Reaper action was organized by three Anarchist Black Cross groups and other anarchists on the east coast who are active in the campaign to free Mumia Abu-Jamal.

### Attacks in Solidarity With Mumia

There were attacks in Berlin, Frankfurt, and Karlsruhe. In Berlin, seven American Citibank offices were covered in "Free Mumia!" posters and a UPS truck was destroyed with a molotov. In Frankfurt, 200 people gave out leaflets to tourists at the Frankfurt International Airport. On July 22, there will be a demo for Mumia in Berlin.

### Pacifists support Mumia

Among those fanatically campaigning to stop the execution of former Black Panther Mumia Abu-Jamal is a little known Christian movement of German immigrant farmers. Called the Bruderhof Hutterian Brethren, its 2200 members live and dress much like 16th century German peasants, preach radical pacifism and hold all property in common.

Founded in Germany in the late 1920s and early 30s, the Bruderhofs — like the better known Amish — are a spinoff of the non-violent

16th century German Anabaptist peasant movement whose members swore loyalty to God over the state. Unlike the Amish, they have a long tradition of political involvement. Alarmed in the late 1920s by the rise of the Nazis, the Bruderhofers' resistance ultimately led to their expulsion, at gunpoint, by the new Nazi state. Today,

Brethren members worry that a similar drift towards repression is occurring in America. They view Abu-Jamal as an innocent man persecuted for his political beliefs. And they see his impending death as an ominous sign of the two conditions that paved the way to the Nazis' rise to power — public apathy and a corrupt criminal justice system.

In a letter supporting a motion for a stay of execution, 60-year-old Bruderhofer Richard Thomson states that, if the stay is rejected, "I want to offer my own life in place of Mumia's, and accept the lethal injection... so that he may live and your law be satisfied."



A New York City contingent protests in support of Mumia Abu-Jamal. A massive support campaign for Abu-Jamal has been growing both nationally and internationally for several years.

## 250+ arrested at Abu-Jamal demo: 'Protest is only the beginning'

### An activist's report:

A protest starting off at the UN Plaza in S.F. was ended in a massive arrest June 26, one of the largest S.F. has ever seen.

The international UN gathering in San Francisco created a worldwide focus on S.F. now and thus has created a situation of terror and arrests for homeless and homeless activists. This is the political climate in S.F. now, also with the Food not

Bombs gathering happening it increased the pressure on the powers that be.

At 7:30 p.m., a support rally for Mumia Abu-Jamal with a strong presence of Food not Bombs activists were there. The Torchlight Parade started around 8:30 and marched up Market street. It was quite a wonderful site to see all these torches and candles lit up as we marched. We turned on Valencia street, into the predominantly Latino neighborhood of the Mission District and there were many apartment supporters and S.F. Project residents whom raised fists and shouted in support to our cause in the street.

As the Torchlight March continued, in front of the new Juvenile Police Station, home base for cops who have killed two of the three people to die

at the hands of the police in the last month, a large garbage can was set aflame in the middle of the street. The line of riot cops could not do anything but protect their precious Juvenile Cop Shop. A few blocks later, we saw police forming a line to block us so we turned and proceeded heading back down Mission St. Some other garbage can fires were set but quickly put out. It seemed that the majority of protesters had enough of the fires.

Going up 16th street once we hit Market St. again the cops were out in full force. They quickly herded us down Market and then down a very thin side street where we were trapped by two lines of cops on either side and apartment buildings on the other two. Some escaped into friendly apartments but very many people were trapped:

The long process of arrests began. 240-300 people were arrested totally, marking one of the biggest mass arrests in S.F. herstory. The long grueling process of humiliation and boredom began. You are guilty before innocent these days.

Everyone was jailed for arson and inciting a riot. It is amazing to arrest so many on a felony. All charges were later dropped on all arrestees.

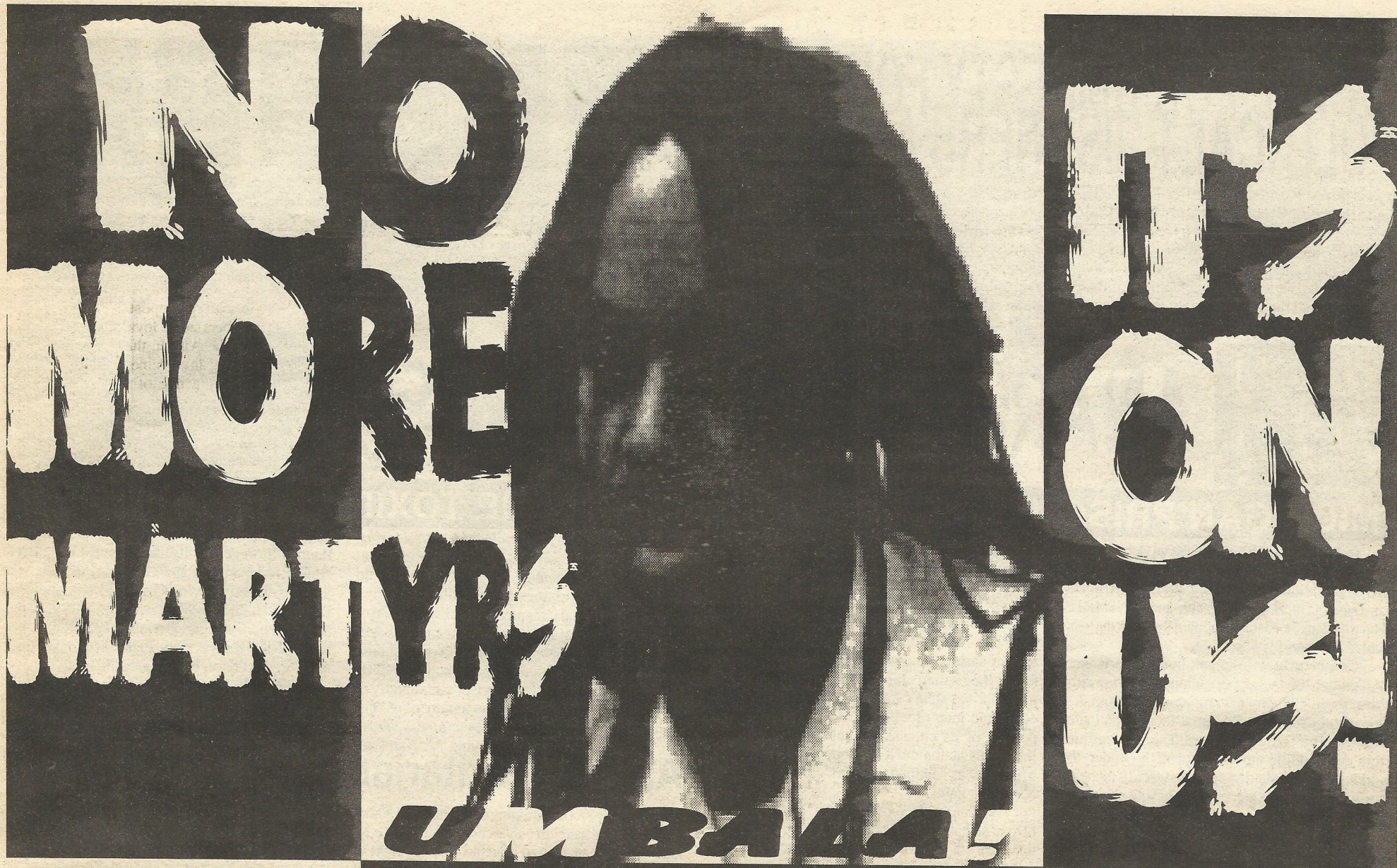
*Free Mumia! Protest is only the beginning!*

## Internet info

If you have access to Internet, you can find out the latest news about Mumia and actions for his freedom via the World Wide Web at <http://huizen.dds.nl:80/~tank/mumia002.html>

Call, write and fax: Gov. Thomas Ridge  
Main Capitol Building, Room 225  
Harrisburg, PA 17120  
phone: (717) 787-2500 • fax: (717) 783-3369  
**Demand freedom for  
Mumia Abu-Jamal!**





## A letter from Mumia Abu-Jamal

*Dear friends, comrades, brothers & sistas: ONA MOVE!*

Thank you for the strong support you've been showing, not only in this state, nor in this country, but around the world. In Germany — *Danke!* — in France — *Merci!* — in Australia and beyond. My thanks to you all, without exception.

We are engaged in a battle against forces which, quite literally, has barbecued babies in their drive to conquer every living trace of dissent from the earth. The date, May 13, 1985, should therefore be burned into our collective consciousness so that we not forget the martyrs of Mother's Day Massacre — MOVE.

That is who they are. The question then arises: Who are we? If we are who we say we are, then it is our task, our duty, to build, to structure, to organize our movements, among the poor, among the oppressed, among students, among and around every sector and strata, to roll back the repressive tide that is flowing like a glacier, across many of our countries.

As well as my thanks to you all, please allow me to speak about others who are political prisoners in Babylon, others who are engaged for their beliefs and/or actions.

The MOVE9: Delbert Africa, Merle Africa, Chuck Africa, Debbie Africa, Mike Africa, Phil Africa, Janine Africa, Janet Africa, and Eddie Africa are in Pennsylvania dungeons doing a term of 100 YEARS! A century for being MOVE members. Guilty of nothing, but their determination to be free. For more info on them contact: The MOVE Organization, P.O. Box 19709, Philadelphia, PA 19143; (215) 387-9955.

Sundiata Acoli (s/n Clark Squire) most recently denied parole, and given a draconian 20+ year hit, after over a decade of misconduct-free time; principally for his political beliefs, affiliations and history. His contacts can be reached at: safc1218@aol.com for the Sundiata Acoli Freedom Campaign. His crime? Refusing to be executed as was the late Deputy Minister of Information, Zayd Malik Shakur, of the East Coast Black Panther Party.

There are many of us in these joints, stewing and simmering in high-tech dungeons. Don't mope. Organize! To you all, my (Our!) thanks. Ona Move

Long Live John Africa!

Mumia Abu-Jamal

(Reprinted excerpt from *Jamal Journal*)

It is true! The real life story of political prisoner in amerikkka. Mumia Abu Jamal sentenced to death!

There was so much I wanted to say in the last communique about the adventure in mass marketing icon making that Mario & pops emerged themselves in. The main thing I wanted to point out, that if this generation was to be inspired by the Panthers and follow their footsteps, then all the mistakes and truthful ugliness that went on in the party to *help* COINTELPRO should've been portrayed in the film in order to study. For the Panther party is a prototype to analyze what went right as well as what went wrong. So maybe this column will help us to see what must be done about Mumia Abu Jamal's death sentence.

Tom Ridge, governor of Pennsylvania, signed Mumia's death warrant on June 2nd setting his execution day on August 17th. Mumia, former Panther at the age of sixteen has been in the black liberation movement to this day. He was 26 when he was accused of killing a cop in Philly on Dec. 9, '81. A scuffle happened between him, pigs and his brother. Working in his cab one night, Mumia saw a cop beating his brother for a phucking traffic violation. Mumia jumped in to help, only to get shot in the stomach. When the shit cleared, Mumia was sitting on the street curb bleeding while the cop lay dead.

How do we know he was innocent? When you get shot in the stomach, trajectory of the bullet that hit the cop was coming from a completely different angle than where Mumia was standing, and a parade of 15 character witnesses exposing inconsistencies in the state's case. At least you can question "The State's" accusation. And the story goes as always when the state is geared to putting your black-ass in prison: all white jurors, and a speedy trial. But what was really interesting about Mumia's trial, is that it barely touched on the "crime" of shooting this cop, but Mumia's political life.

From teenaged revolutionary to president of the association of Black Journalists (Wha... They had a real black person amongst them at

one point in their tommying history?), an out spoken MOVE supporter who wrote passionately on the cultural group's mass murder when the city of Philly fire bombed an apartment complex they lived in. Mumia had to go as a supporter of Mumia, I believe his locking down was all a part of some unfinished business between pigz & Panthers.

The prosecution had determined that Mumia was A cop killer based on his formerly being a Panther since they were labeled as cop killers, and because Philly pigz have a long history of street confrontations with MOVE people.

This would make the case easier. All questions during the trial were leveled at Mumia's beliefs 12 years ago as a Panther and nothing else. It's been Thirteen years of Mumia locked down on death row. A movement has grown over the years in his support to get his case out and to get people to demand his freedom, or at least a new trial. But now the shit is getting even more serious. This core movement made of different groups and individuals can only do so much. The left has turned its back on him when National Public Radio stopped playing his commentaries.

A protest in Minneapolis was busted by violence perpetrated by the pigz recently. In the time I was active in the Clarence Brandley Coalition, a movement that successfully freed a brother from death row on trumped up charges, the basic act of informing people of his case is what woke so many people up and got them to either join in on the fight, or be in the shit when a action took place. I don't know.

It seems that the various radikal cliques and crews are just clinging on to Mumia's case as though his imprisonment was their own trophy, an "in" thing for only the cool to trip on. Phuk that!! We do what we can, and we gotta get this out to everyone as much as possible. I'm not writing about any more martyrs of the struggle! It's on us!

For more info read *Still Black. Still Strong: Survivors Of The War Against Black Revolutionaries*. Published by Semiotext(e).

—Bilal Nine

## A letter of support from Native American political prisoner Leonard Peltier

Greetings My Friends,

When I heard the awful news that Pennsylvania Governor Thomas Ridge had signed a death warrant for our Brother Mumia Abu-Jamal setting an execution date for August 17th, two thoughts hit me simultaneously. One was absolute heart-break for this man who has sacrificed since he was just fourteen years old, so much of himself in his struggle within the African American Movement and for his family, friends, and supporters. The other was, "What can I do to help? How can my network become involved in saving his life?"

Nearly two decades in prison for a crime I did not commit, my sense of solidarity with Mumia is great. We are men in similar situations, men who fought for justice only to be persecuted by the system, a system that *could not* silence us. We have both been targetted by the FBI for neutralization. We are both the victims of COINTELPRO. So many African and Native brothers and sisters have been victimized. When does it stop? What kind of a world are our children facing?

Today I take this stand, that the African and Native struggles unite in solidarity, that members of all races, of every sacred color unite. There are many good people in this world, but we are spread out and working on our own issues. If we join hands, mountains will move. We must force Judge Albert Sabo from this case by supporting Mumia's Motion for Recusal and we must pressure Governor Ridge to grant a reprieve.

There is no more time to waste. We must forget our differences, make the effort to work harder, and save the life of Mumia Abu-Jamal.

There are few human beings with the eloquence and effectiveness to be the voice of the struggle for civil and social rights. Mumia is one of that handful. The world cannot afford to lose him.

In the spirit of Crazy Horse,  
Leonard Peltier



# A CALL FOR AMNESTY FOR BLACK POLITICAL PRISONERS AND POWS!

by Lorenzo Komboa Ervin  
Federation of Black Community Partisans

My name is Lorenzo Komboa Ervin. I live in Atlanta, Georgia. In the late 1960's, I was a member of the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee and the Black Panther Party. Because of my activities in the Black Liberation movement

of the 1960's, I was railroaded by the United States government to a "life" sentence, where I served almost 15 years. I was just one of a number of persons who went to prison from the Black revolutionary movement. There is nothing heroic or exceptional about my individual case. Many of those whom I was in prison with are still there, such as Herman Bell, Sundiata Acoli and many

others who have gone there since my release. It is for them I make this proposal, not for myself.

The idea of a general amnesty for Black political prisoners/prisoners-of-war is based on two primary reasons, well recognized in international law: (1) humanitarian, and (2) political, although not necessarily in that order. This proposal is the bare outlines for an amnesty campaign,

there is no "textbook" Just so everyone will understand what I am not talking about, let me say this first: I am not talking about Amnesty International, the liberal reform organization, who has a policy against supporting anyone who has engaged in or advocated violence; I am also not

See AMNESTY on page 12



## ANARCHIST BLACK CROSS

Aug. 10: Prisoners' Justice Day, set aside to remember those who have died unnatural deaths in prisons. While prisoners fast and refuse to work, people on the outside hold vigils, rallies and services in support, and in your PID action reports!  
Aug. 26-27: Through The Walls: Prisoner Solidarity And Anti-Prison Conference. Workshops, networking and skill sharing in Toronto, Ontario, Canada.

### MICHIGAN PRISONERS ORGANIZE AGAINST THE TOXIFICATION OF JAILS

Every day, the (MDOC) Michigan Department of Corrections violates the U.S. Constitution, the (EPA) environmental Protection Agency, The (MDPH) Michigan Department of Public Health and (UNSMRTP) United Nations Standards Minimum Rules for the treatment of prisoners by:

Consciously-with-intent housing prisoners in facilities of the upper peninsula; Hiawatha Temporary, Chippewa Temporary, Kinross Regional and Chippewa Regional facilities all sites are located on Toxic waste sites. The said facilities were either build on land formerly under the workings of the United States Air--force (Kincheloe base), or the land, water system they sit are on the land-fills of said base dumping's. Prisoners are being forced to drink, cook, and otherwise using this toxic water. The water is pumped from the community wells submerged in contaminated soil.

The EPA, DNR and MDPH each have analysis proving the soil holds Radioactive contaminants and the water supplied to the prisons has varying "carcinogenesis" of Trichloroethylene (TCE), Feron, Chloroform, Ethylbenzene, Meta-Paraxylene and Orth-xylene. The cellular change of either one of this materials quoting the EPA; could lead to a "malignant-transformation" and a "lethal cancer" causing brain tumors.

The (MDOC), has had the following deaths of long-short term employees of these facilities; Lt. Lloyd Moore, Captain Holford, Tom Omeilia, Officers-Gary Wiirtanen, Bob Palmer, Robert Swick and Lynn Steppig. These deaths were either "suicides" (because of the cancer), or of Brain tumors, cancer itself.

A New York Times article dated Aug. 5, 1991 stated; the U.S. government spends and resends some \$6.9 billion on cleaning-up closed air-force bases to be used as prisons. The clean-up of the

land and water supply takes 7-10 years. They use bacteria to purge jet fuel (TCE) from the soil and vital water supplies, as well use "robots" to clear miles of radioactive soil/other contaminants. This was not done at these facilities due to economics!

The EPA, MDPH, DNR are acting in conspiracy fashion to cover this action. If the public knew, they would close-down these facilities that have put the state's total upper peninsula on the economic map of Michigan, and given over 76 percent of its citizens or their family members jobs. This action must be stopped for the state is using Us as "human guineas" in their web of economic gains.

We don't need your sympathy -- We need your help in stopping Our incarceration under such conditions. We ask you to contact the following prisoncrats and politricks and demand the stop the housing of Black prisoners at these facilities.

Write MDOC Director; Kenneth McGinnis Grand View Plaza Bldg, Box 30003 Lansing, MI 48909 or phone at (517) 373-0720

Also, write Governor John Engler 2520 Oxford, Rd, Lansing, MI 48911-1035 or phone (517) 373-3400

Also, write MDOC Warden Patricia Caruso (KTF, HTF, CRP) 4535 West Tone, Road Kincheloe, MI 49784 or phone (906) 495-5787

The federal Bureau of Prisons (BOP) is responsible for determining where prisons are built and if the land is suitable for such buildings, pursuant to Sec. 2922 of the National Defense Authorization Act for the fiscal year of 1991, concerning Air-force base's, pursuant to Public Law 100-456 and executive Order 12682 of 1989.

The United States has expanded requirements for prison facilities. Under this order any and all former air-base can and are being used as

a prison without the proper cleanup of said toxins.

The BOP's Criteria for Suitability for Placement of Prisons, Number 5 states: the site should be free form environmental difficulties including protected "wetlands" significant archaeological or historic resources, habitats of "endangered-species" and HARP/hazardous waste. Prisons should not be located in a flood plain or encumbered by mineral rights issues. These prisons sit directly in flood plains. We must stop this treatment of economics over life herein these government yards.

As of May 1991 the following Air-Bases are

### Anti-authoritarian authoritarianism?

Recently I received a copy of a "proposal" placed on the table for anarchist public consumption by the NJ ABC which as an avowed anarchist some portions of outraged me far beyond any mere feeling of anger. It was a proposal for an anarchist(?) "federation" to be formed, geographically located in New Jersey and suggested formation of a "Committee of Five Prisoners," a blatantly elitist ruling committee, who will then provide among other things "direction and leadership" to affiliated anarchist groups. This proposal made the suggestion various anarchist groups to accept a clearly authoritarian type command structure formed within the anarchist movement meant to strengthen the "federation." It was put forth within this proposal the establishment of an elitist group, "committee," composed of five prisoners who would then determine "exclusively" which P.P./P.O.W.'s merit the support of anarchist groups. I could not help but notice the obvious absence of the words "anarchist prisoner(s)" in their reference to "P.P./P.O.W.'s" which poses an obvious question concerning anarchist prisoners and becomes overtly suspicious when one considers the identity of the cast of characters involved with their past affiliation to "Freedom Now"'s secret criteria, star chamber decisions and exclusion of anarchists from their list of "politicals" submitted to the United Nations.

The proposal put forth the concept of a collective "War Chest Program" and was completed with a suggestion of a hypothetical amount of weekly contribution preferable per person which somewhat resembles mandatory weekly "dues" for the privilege of being a part of the "federation." It contained a suggested "command structure" which reeks to high heaven of a Marxist party line organizational command structure. This alleged proposal, in my opinion, ended with an insult to all anarchists with a caution that anarchist groups should consider changing well recognized, though colorful, group names to provide "uniformity and professionalism" to the Federation by stating, "The use of names that could cause the prisoners, political formations and the masses in general to take us less seriously should certainly be avoided." I wish to tender my comments upon this "proposal" in the order I have presented the issues I firmly object to at this time.

#### Committee of Five Prisoners

The proposal's "Committee of Five Prisoners" I strenuously have objection to as this reeks of creating an "elitist" top heavy situation and especially since this prisoners' committee sounds like Marxist vanguardism or more specifically the Revolutionary Communist

Party's species of vanguardism. I further have objection to this committee's professed intention to provide "direction and leadership" to any "anarchist" group truly practicing the tenets of anarchism, be it one of the groups I am affiliated with or another anarchist collective. Didn't a lot of us adopt anarchism as our chosen politics to get away from these elitist types with their concepts of "direction and leadership" they felt compelled we should follow because they knew what was best for us?

For more information contact: Amistad-March 31 N' COBRA-Michigan Chapter c/o Najee Ibodo Z. Ingram #178096, 4535 West Tone, Road Kincheloe, MI 499784-0001 or Black Fist.

I will clarify something right now. I firmly believe P.P./P.O.W.'s should be supported. I believe they should receive whatever aid they might need or require. I try to give all P.P./P.O.W.'s the amount of respect they have coming and rightly deserve. I would take absolutely nothing from them. I also will not allow anything to be taken from any anarchist, any anarchist prisoner or myself by anybody. Let that be clearly understood in light of what I am about to state.

There is a time worn joke containing more than a little bit of truth concerning elitist "vanguardists" leading the revolution from the rear. It appears now persons suspiciously sounding like authoritarian vanguardists, even if calling themselves anarchists, have come up with a unique method of "leading." From within the gulags? Sounds sort of like to me, with my folksy Irish humor, to be the proverbial tail wagging the dog. Now I can only speak for myself as an anarchist and as an individual but I do not want, nor need, their "leadership" nor do I want their "direction." That is how it is with me but when somebody, anybody, tries to give me their version of "direction" or impose their "leadership" upon me then I will hasten to suggest to them a "direction" they might consider going and if there is more than one they might consider practicing their "leadership" talents getting there!

Yes, this proposed committee of five prisoners might well be "P.P./P.O.W.s" within the "Freedom Now" and any other possible, definition of such but is this "committee of prisoners" anarchist either in membership composition or political motivation I ask myself? Or are some of them merely conveniently labeling themselves "anarchist" since the forlorn chance of Marxist ideology prevailing over capitalism became greatly diminished when the former Soviet Union broke apart, spent itself into bankruptcy in a spending military race to disaster? I see an obvious disparity of like feelings (i.e. principled respect of other political beliefs) which has been blatantly exhibited in past toward anarchists by the various leftist political movements, organizations and groups which some of these people, now

### New Afrikan activist shipped to segregation

Abdul Jalil Muntakim was recently sanctioned in two years in segregation, charged with "Unauthorized Assembly in the Yard" and "Leading a Protest."

Jalil is targeted falsely because of his history and politics -- he is a jailed New Afrikan freedom fighter. Write and urge to look into the matter: Acting Com-

missioner Phillip Coombe, Dept. of Correctional Services, State Campus Bldg. 2, Albany NY 12226. ph: 518-474-2121 direct line: 518-457-8126 fax: 518-457-7070. Letters of support can go to: Abdul Jalil Muntakim (s/n: Jalil Bottom) 77A4283, Attica Correctional Facility, Attica, NY 14011-0149.

### The Goldfront Project builds solutions

This is the Goldfront Project's full text:

We all know that Our youth are engaged in destructive behaviors. One magazine, Newsweek, August 15, 1994, page 23, has gone so far as to state: "A wildly disproportionate share of murder is committed by and against young Black men... their rate of victimization is 10 times higher than that of young White men."

Our position is that if it is one youth killing another youth, it is one too many. We see that community programs designed to reach Our youth and instill in them a sense of self and group worth, such as churches, Mosques, Community Centers, etc., are only able to do so much. Our communities are in a state of emergency! This means that EVERYONE has to contribute to stopping the tide of death and destruction.

Therefore, We see that those of Us who are

imprisoned have a responsibility to bear for some of the destruction being visited upon Our communities. Recognizing and bearing that responsibility, We have devised an initiative which We are confident will contribute some to stemming the tide.

We believe that a large portion of the blame for the self and group hate exhibited by Our youth is the fault of the adult population, both in and out of prisons and jails. This dog-eat-dog mentality that the adult population exhibits has translated into a large segment of Our youth being alienated and scarred. That dynamic has translate into violent internal response from Our youth which is

See GOLDFRONT on page 9



## GOLDFRONT from page 8

manifested in their seemingly total disregard for life and liberty and has caused a significant num-

## Obadele denied parole for the fourth time

New Afrikan anarchist Prince Imari A. Obadele, an initiator of the Amistad-March 31 chapter of the National Coalition of Black for Reparations in America and a prolific author whose work has appeared in such publications as *Prison News Service*, *This Just In* and *Black Fist*, was recently denied parole for the fourth time since his jailing.

Obadele has been "set off" until August 1996, which likely means he will not see the parole board again until next March. However,

ber of the community to live in fear of the very children whom We are supposed to protect and serve, i.e. LOVE.

We can cite a litany of external causation for

with the Texas penal code's change, the crime Obadele was convicted for is now actually inconsistent with the sentence he is now serving; the parole board, based on this, can commute his sentence anytime! Plans are in the works to build a campaign to win Obadele's freedom.

Donations for Obadele's defense are desperately needed to fight the court battle to win freedom. Please send donations to the **Prince Imari Defense Fund, P. O. Box 75437, Baton Rouge, LA 70874.**

## Stop Maryland's Dept. of Corrections!

A communique for an inmate confined in Maryland's Supermax facility (Maryland Corrections Adjustment Center) for over 2 years: "Conditions here at the State of Maryland's Supermax are completely shocking. The warden continues to institute methods of punishment through physical and mental torture, some of which even the notorious Marion Federal Prison hasn't seen. Prisoners have resorted to very sick and disturbing practices as a result of Warden Sweall Smith's 'make it as he goes' policy. Prisoners use human waste (feces) as weapons. The method of throwing it or spraying it on other prisoners and guards is referred to as 'chemical warfare.'

"All the frustration and conflict are a result of being locked in 99 percent of the time as no one is guaranteed walks or showers. Physical and psychological abuse is a daily part of this sick program. For example, one method of controlling prisoners is to spray them down the chemical mace after which guards then beat them with sticks. Then, perhaps, you may end up in the hole where you are stripped naked and chained in what is called a 'three piece'. A three piece means you are chained at your hands, waist and ankles. No sooner than you hit the hole, an order is issued for the blowers to be turned on. The blowers are extremely powerful. For instance, if the temperature is 40 degrees in the room, the blowers will make it feel as if it is 0 degrees. In the hole areas there are no mattresses, no blankets and no sheets. You are left chained like a wild animal for 1 to 7 days."

The Maryland system headed by Secretary Bishop Robinson, Commissioner Richard Lanhan and Parole Commissioner Paul Davis has earned a reputation as America's cruelest attributed to the following:

- Overcrowded conditions due to Maryland's 20,000 prison population—currently 60% over-capacity and increasing an average of 100 per month—resulting in health hazards such as outbreaks of tuberculosis, in particular, at a Hagerstown facility where 400 of 1,900 inmates tested positive.

- Upscale inmate control mechanisms such as the modeling of a supermax facility, Maryland Corrections Adjustment Center (MCAC), after Illinois' infamous Marion Prison, where inmates are subjected to inhumane punishment such as 23 1/2 hour-a-day solitary.

- Escalated repression as demonstrated by removal of 134 inmates serving life sentences from the work release program because of the actions of one individual involved in a murder-suicide. Many on work release had been at that status for years with no violations.

- Decreased focus on education, drug treatment, vocational training and rehabilitation due to the 'law and order' punishment mentality of prison administrators.

- Untrained and under-educated prison employees lack basic knowledge of Department of Corrections (DOC) regulations.

- Biased grievance process due to an administrative board which expresses prejudices about the aggrieved, demonstrated by failure to acknowledge violation(s).

- Sexist dress codes formulated by wardens at each institution implemented by guards at random. For example, Jessup Pre-Release Unit allows for no spandex pants which has been expanded to include no cotton straight leg pants considered to be revealing as defined by guards. This results in denial of visitation for family and friends who oftentimes must travel long distances.

Please write Maryland Governor Parris Glendening to encourage him to make new appointments for both the Department of Public Safety and Department of Corrections. To not focus of rehabilitation and/or alternatives to incarceration in genocide for Blacks in the U.S.!

Write to: Governor Parris Glendening, State House, 100 State Circle, Annapolis, Maryland 21401. For info:

**BlackWatch Grassroots Network**  
c/o Jennifer Smith  
3802 14th St. N.W., #511  
Washington, D.C. 20011

## AMNESTY from page 8

claiming anarchism, have been affiliated with, supported and received support from in past.

I object to the establishment of any elite committee of five prisoners, or anybody else for that matter, sitting in judgment of anarchist prisoners' loyalty. I firmly object to any such committee, or anybody else, advocating their role/position in our movement allows them is to sit in judgment of other anarchist prisoners' principles. I intensely resent this "NJ ABC federation" proposal appears to be requesting anarchists "exclusively" support prisoners of their (the five prisoners comprising the "committee") choice of "who" merits support with no mention of anarchists. Do anarchists really need dictatorial guidance?

This same scenario with only minor changes was played out to its sorry end before with the left in amerikkka. A refresher is perhaps in order? Once upon a time (less than a decade ago) a group of elitists calling themselves "Freedom Now" started an endless debate, and B.S. controversy, among prisoners and non-prisoners alike, which was nonproductive to the extreme but probably intensely amused the commonly shared enemies of the left. The endless debates caused senseless rifts within the various movements as people wondered "why" one prisoner was chosen/another prisoner was rejected then vocally questioned the validity of some of FN's list of evidently divinely "chosen few" about "who" was/was not a "P.P.O.W." That debate finally died down and went the way of most fertilizer with the passage of time. One thing was evident then with FN and that was no anarchists need apply... FN's secret

criteria was the topic of much counter-productive controversy within the counter culture media as evidenced by an overabundance of printers' ink wasted with all manner of pro and con viewpoints concerning the FN choices or decisions. Thanks for trying to breathe life back into that same tired controversy, NJ ABC.

Maybe I am somewhat old fashioned in my thinking but I feel, for example, RCP prisoners should be supported... by Revolutionary Communist Party membership. As an anarchist I cannot be critical about their support by their own party in such a fashion. I feel that other Marxist organizations should support their prisoners. Again as an anarchist I should have nothing to say about it. I feel the supremacist-separatist bigoted pond scum should support their prisoners. Once again such internal matters is absolutely none of my damned business as an anarchist. I also firmly believe decisions to support anarchist prisoners should be left to the individual anarchist groups who have chosen to institute support campaigns (such as my own with Brooklyn ABC), support should be done by choice of the anarchist group, not proclamation to mandate from on high, and anarchist organization should be practiced in all aspects of our anarchist dealings. Never should a true anarchist conform to, or comply with, any such of a dictatorial proclamation by any elite group, such as this proposed committee of five prisoners deciding which prisoners, of their individual choice, are to receive support while perhaps receiving material support from various segments of the anarchist movement themselves.

I personally adopted anarchism many years ago to

the problems Our youth are having, such as: funding for public schools continuously being cut to build more prisons. BUT We see that a lot of Our problems can and should be solved by Us!

One way that can help to solve some of the problems is to demonstrate to the youth that prison is not somewhere they want to end up.

We believe that a person can see something better than they can "hear" something. One way We believe they can be made to "see" them into the penitentiary for intense tours of the entire facility and discussion with those of Us who are in here, who can demonstrate to the youth, in language they understand, the relationship between their self-destructive actions, destruction of the communities, and prisons.

We can demonstrate to the youth that prison is NOT a place for "homecomings" for homeboys; that prison is NOT a place where prisoners lay around, eating, getting fat and watching T.V. in air-conditioned rooms; that it is a de-humanizing experience which leaves the person affected in a cruel way; that respect liberty are what's really happening; and that no one does time alone!

Everyone one knows and loves are adversely impacted by the destruction of drugs, death and imprisonment.

Some of Our youth claim the reason they do what they do is to help support their families. We can demonstrate to them that a prisoner is a burden on their family. Not an asset to it.

We therefore call upon YOU, the Community, to demand of the Texas Department of Criminal Justice (209 W. 14th, Price Daniel Building, Box 13084, Austin, Texas 78711-3084) that they institute these types of tours and interactions for Our youth that We envision.

Call, write and/or visit your local and state representatives, the Governor (George W. Bush, State Capitol, Austin, Texas 78711) and the director of the Texas Department of Criminal Justice-Institutional Division (Box 99, Huntsville, Texas 77342-0099) demanding your right to do something to protect yourselves, your communities and Our children!

Many things are necessary to repair Our communities, but building more prisons in which to bury Our future is NOT one of them. Bringing them in here while they can still walk out of them is!

For more on this initiative please contact Amistad-March 31 chapter of N'COBRA (National Coalition of Black for Reparations in Amerika) at P.O. Box 75437, Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70874. On the outside, contact the Black Fist Collective at 15110 Bellaire, Box 317, Houston, Texas 77083 or phone (713) 845-7730.

If you are interested in helping form a prisoner support/anti-prison network to tackle problems in the Deep South, Southwest and Southeast, please write Box 926113, Houston, Texas 77292-6113.

remove elitist proclamations from my life whether such originates from those calling themselves the left or the right. When a proclamation is thrust my direction as an avowed anarchist who lives anarchism every day of my life when out there, and have for the past 16 years in this gulag system taking continual slams and repression from anal retentive prisonrats due to my politics and jailhouse lawyer activities in behalf of other prisoners most of which are of African heritage, then let it be clearly understood to one and all the fighting side of this man's personality comes out loud and proud! If I don't appreciate a game coming my direction, being inflicted upon my anarchist brothers and sisters then I speak out in less than humble fashion about it to have my voice heard! NJ ABC, I do not trust, like nor appreciate your proposal which does not seem to have anything to do with any form of anarchism as I have known it to have been practiced. This proposal does not sound like you are flying the black flag of anarchy but are flying a red flag while wearing the black mask of a predatory hijacker with thinly disguised aspirations of exercising some sort of a hidden agenda in mind. Perhaps attempting to seize control of our growing anarchist movement, control my @ brothers and sisters? Rob me with a damned gun but do not ask me to surrender who I am with a proposal! Have some semblance of self respect, for Christsake, NJ ABC lads!

### War Chest Program Concept

The "War Chest Program" set forth within the NJ

See COMMENTS on page 12

## NOTES and RESOURCES

### TEXAS PRISON LABOR UNION...

Rosharon prisoners Willie Milton and Ricky Long are seeking support and funds for a newly created group, the Texas Prison Labor Union. Texas prisons are notorious for poor working conditions, the dangers inmates are put in as a result of those conditions and the callous disregard for safety. One could expect that any group organizing for prisoners' labor rights will face opposition... all the more reason to support this effort. Write to Ricky Long, 490671, or Willie A. Milton, #561014, both at the following address: Rt. 3, Box 59, Rosharon, Texas 77583.

### FIGHT PRISON FRAUD...

Native American (former) prisoner Little Rock Reed is involved with an action that lives up to its word as "a viable revolutionary prison reform strategy." As of April, jailhouse lawyers, attorneys and prisoners' rights activists in 22 states and representing over 50 illegally accredited prisons are challenging in court the American Correctional Association for fraud and violations under the RICO act, among other constitutional and statutory violations under federal and state law.

Funds are essential in continuing the legal battle here. This thoughtful strategy (which requires much more explanation than a small space can provide) certainly deserves your support. Write to Little Rock Reed and Deborah Garlin at The Center for Advocacy of Human Rights, Box 880, Ranchos de Tacos, NM 87557-0880.

### IT'S ABOUT FREEDOM WITH US...

Prince Imari A. Obadele has been one of the most visible New Afrikan anarchists locked down for his struggle against oppression. Funds and community support are very much needed to get him out. Purchase copies of his book, *It's About Reparations With Us!* (which includes basic documents about the New Afrikan Independence Movement) for \$6 — all of which goes to his defense fund — to House of Sanghay, Box 75437, Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70874. See this page for info on donating to his defense fund.

### FREEDOM FOR APODACA...

Anne Louise Apodaca, also known as Snooky Riley, is seeking letters to the governor of New Mexico requesting clemency, ideally a pardon, for her life conviction. Apodaca was sentenced in 1990 to prison for killing her abusive rapist spouse, Edward Riley. However, it wasn't until 1992 that such issues as Battered Women's Syndrome were taken into account in courts. Please send letters requesting a pardon to Governor Gary Johnson, State Capitol, Room 400, Santa Fe, New Mexico 87503. You can also call H. L. "Bud" Riley, her father, at (505) 266-2565 to find out how you can support Apodaca's freedom.

### SUPPORT STONE-BEY...

As of December, political prisoner Lorenzo Stone-Bey will have spent 20 years in the pen. Imprisoned at 17 as a first-time offender, his trial was highly politicized and he was the only one of three defendants convicted. When December rolls around, he will be eligible for parole. Please write letters to the Indiana Parole Board, 8321 Indiana Government Center South, 302 W. Washington St., Indianapolis, Indiana 46204 in support of Stone-Bey's freedom. You can get copies of his book, *Voice of the Oppressed*, which supports his legal struggle, by sending \$3 (leave payable line blank) to Brew City Antiauthoritarian Collective, Box 93321, Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53203.

### A DESPERATE PLEA...

A gay prisoner incarcerated in Texas is seeking help from a jailhouse lawyer or attorney in getting transferred to Protective Custody or Safekeeping (please he's made which have been repeatedly turned down) after suffering beatings and sexual assaults. In the interest of the inmate's safety, please send any replies for help to Black Fist (see address on page 2) and they'll be forwarded to him.



# netWORKING East and West BOULEVARD



the alarming developments on the far right in Hungary. Memorials were held for her both in Hungary and at the New School in New York. Her papers will be collected in special archives in Budapest and Florence, Italy.

Our Hungarian friend and contact Agnes Hochberg died suddenly from a heart problem this past March while translating at a meeting in Budapest. She was 31. In the political moment immediately following the collapse of the Eastern Bloc, Agnes helped found Hungary's first anarchist and feminist groups, respectively Autonomia and the Feminist Network. She was a tireless organizer who linked struggles in Europe and North America, sending us updates on Hungarian anarchist activities for OGB and participating in the Network of East/West Women. Agnes, who was also an especially gifted scholar, spent a year in the U.S. (1993-4) on a grant to study feminism in New York City's New School for Social Research, which is known for its East European studies. Proficient in Hungarian, Italian, French, English and Hebrew, she continued work on an oral history project on U.S., Italian and Hungarian feminism, interviewing women active in those movements. While in the U.S., she also continued to explore the political dimensions of her Jewish identity and heritage, a passion she brought to bear in denouncing

— Bob McGlynn and Joe Lowndes

## I, Claudia-London Neither East Nor West

Since our inception, individuals and groups have taken on the Neither East Nor West name. Hell, at the moment we even have a chapter in the infamous *Folsom Prison* in the U.S.!

The chapter name "I, Claudia-London NENW" is a take-off on a book of essays *I, Claudia-Feminism Unveiled* by the London author Claudia. In rantish accounts both witty and personalized, in that and her other booklet *The Rebels' New Clothes*, both by "Class Whore Publications", she unmercifully slaps around certain "feminists", the politically correct, Leninists, anarchists, frauds galore and more. With her pistol drawn, you're forced to either love or hate her. Indeed, the latter is enforced by certain bookstores that ban her publications! One claimed "Just because there's a picture of a woman on the cover, doesn't mean it was written by one." There was also a "cover-up campaign"; certain individuals would enter a bookshop and pull other publications across Claudia's.

A taste from *The Rebels' New Clothes*:

"I always admired the ability of members of the Worker's Revolutionary Party to remain poker-faced while denouncing political opponents as 'petty-bourgeois dilettantes' and 'neo-Kantian idealists'. The Worker's Institute of Brixton were even madder. I heard a girl who spoke with a Princess Diana accent tell a meeting that the Chinese people were building a weather machine which would be powerful enough to freeze Niagara Falls. The consequent damage to the American economy would be an act of retribution against US imperialism which had created the massive Chinese earthquake of 1978. Meanwhile, she assured us, the People's Army were tunnelling through the centre of the earth. They would emerge in Australia, where they would proceed to foment the glorious communist revolution."

Thus, we at The Great and Mighty NENW-NYC - ever home for the politically naughty and those unafraid of just plain fucking honesty - welcome Claudia on board. We look forward to her writings appearing in *On Gogol Boulevard*.

Hey, make our day! TRY TO BAN US!  
Some auto-bio info:



*I was born and brought up in London, a city which has provided me with many fine and not-so-fine squats. I have wandered around Europe, Asia and the Americas, supporting myself with a variety of jobs, including: pavement artist, house painter, courier (dressed as a bunny rabbit), artist's model and English teacher.*

*I am keen on wine, garlic, and urban decay, and for as long as I can remember I have been fascinated by Russia - its history, literature and politics. After several visits in 1979, 1990 and 1992, I went to live in the Volga city of Samara in 1993. Samara was a closed city from 1946 to 1991 as it is a center of weapons production. I went to the provinces as I figured they would give me a truer understanding of the country (Moscow is not Russia in the way New York City is not America). I wrote about life in the provinces in my latest book *Little Tenement on the Volga*.*

*I was pleased to hear of the NENW network as here in London I am starved of "alternative" information about the former Soviet bloc countries. I hope I can be of help to NENW as I can translate Russian into English.*

My contact address is: **BM CLAUDIA, London WC1N 3XX, England**

PS: My other books are *I, Claudia-Feminism Unveiled* (\$6), *The Rebels' New Clothes* (\$5), along with *Little Tenement on the Volga* (\$9) - send concealed cash please.

## SMOT: Ex-USSR Free Trade Union "an association of organizers of new free labor unions"

At the present time SMOT [The Free Interprofessional Union of Working People] numbers several thousand members in various regions of the ex-USSR.

The main differences distinguishing SMOT from other independent labor unions that have appeared during perestroika are:

- SMOT is not just a labor union but also an association of organizers of new free labor unions. According to resolutions of the Representatives Council, SMOT members attempt to organize free labor unions of every type, and also participate in the foundation of any free labor union, not necessarily a part of SMOT. At this stage SMOT is working not for increasing the quantity of primary organizations but for an association of activists and the formation of an effective "officers corps"

for an independent union movement.

- Organizationally SMOT is formed according to the principle of decentralization and avoidance of the concentration of leadership functions in anyone's hands. All SMOT groups are fully autonomous and independent, in as much as the most valuable thing in democracy is the principle of personal autonomy and the principle of autonomy of association.

- SMOT is in principle apolitical; among its members are representatives of 16 various parties and movements, which from SMOT's point of view is their own business.

It is with decentralization that SMOT links its hopes for the future growth of the organization, so

### TRANSLATORS NEEDED

On Gogol Boulevard needs translators in all East/Central European and ex-USSR languages for our texts. Only the serious should volunteer - too many in the past have flaked out and fucked up on us. If you're serious please write. Thanks!

### WRITERS/EDITORS WANTED

We are looking for writers for *On Gogol Boulevard*. We need analysis of current events in the east plus editors to do synopses of large text. Interested?  
NENW-NYC, 528 5th St., Brooklyn, NY 11215, U.S., 718-499-7720.

## Review: *Little Tenement on the Volga*

by Lena Holub

In this thoroughly enjoyable book by C.S. Walton (aka Claudia, author of *I, Claudia* and *The Rebels' New Clothes*) we are pulled into the surreal world of post-Soviet Russia. Living in a tenement (in 1993) on a street called Specialist Alley in the once closed military city of Samara, 600 miles east of Moscow, Walton constructs a tale of hardship, dread, isolation, and occasional laughter and hope, in prose that is both biting and honest.

Samara, we are taught, was founded in the 16th century as a trading post on the Volga. Currently it is the 6th largest city with a population of one and a half million. In Walton's own words; "...The town center is a relic of pre-revolution Russia with an art nouveau chocolate factory and ornate department stores of crumbling stucco. The embankment is lined with *fin-de-siecle* merchants' mansions...houses are crammed with refugees, immigrants from other republics, the poor and the down-and-out...From the distance of the Volga's far shore greater Samara holds the promise of a Mediterranean coastal city, its blocks gleaming white against fresh blue skies. Up close, they dissolve into honeycombs of pale grey concrete, their balconies shielded by corrugated plastic, great cliffs of vertical shanty-dwellings." She then goes on describing in detail about her personal spaces in Number 4, Specialist Alley. Here is where we are first introduced to the harsh and dreary reality of everyday life in post-Soviet Russia. The sub-divided houses shared by numerous families, the absence of "conveniences" that we are so accustomed to here in the West, and the tensions that arise from close living arrangements between people who have no choice in the matter.

Besides her keen descriptions of the physical spaces around her (always nicely pointed with bits of history), Walton I feel is at her best and most compelling in her anecdotes of relationships, friendships and interpersonal conflicts that abound in the little tenement on the Volga. Here is where she can expound on her feelings and social analysis of the many facets of life in post-Soviet Russia.

For example, we are introduced to Boris, a scheming would-be businessman. A young man who uses the corrupt nature of the emerging capitalist construct to pad his pocket. His business ventures included the management of filthy public toilets (that charge admission) to a blackmarket pharmaceutical outlet to selling syringes, stunguns, watches and pirated American videos, to those Russians who felt owning these items would enrich their lives.

She makes many references to the hungry materialistic nature of the people around her, the mother who admires her daughter's pictures from abroad, and who asks question after question, not about the new city she is looking at, but the objects and their cost that she sees on the tables and sidewalks in the snaps. But Walton doesn't take

this opportunity to preach on the evils of materialistic gain and desires, she instead teaches us about the reality of living in post-Soviet Russia. "...After a few months in Samara I began to understand this hunger for material acquisition..." She dissects what she thought was a turn downward for her, this quest for materials and the direction away from thought. But she then goes further to outline for us why this is so, "...I began to fear my own interests were shrinking to this level. I felt as though I was turning into a moron, conscious of little more than my physical self..." [In the West] how easy it used to be to take care of the body's needs so that the mind could take care of itself. I was unable to dwell in my head for too long in Samara; hunger or physical pain from the cold pulled me back to reality..."

Walton goes into wonderful detail about the women she has met as well. The women in Russia today are not "liberated" but are still entrenched in the exploitative economic and social realities that was and is Russian life. Three and a half chapters are devoted to this quest to understand the feminine condition. Walton, by weaving tales from old, stoic women and young ambitious girls, illustrates quite well the psychological, economic, historical and political forces that shape Russian women today. The conflicts they face in dealing with everyday questions of marriage and work, to child raising are fully outlined and critiqued. But what is most striking about these chapters are the miles of intellectual terrain that has to be transversed by Russian women before they can start to want to improve their everyday lives.

Walton does a remarkable job in outlining the nuts and bolts of living, as a citizen, not as a privileged Westerner, in Russia today. In the chapter entitled *The Idiocy of Everyday Life* she tells all about the survival tactics one must employ to shopping, riding the trams, living in the tenements, even crossing the road. I can attest to these examples because I myself spent a short time in Moscow in 1993 as well. But on a more insightful level, this chapter depicts the "appalling consequences" of such a life. That is "people who live in a constant state of tension and frustration, and who lack the energy for measured reflection may blame any convenient scapegoat for their miseries." The ugly reality stemming from this "tension and frustration" is a rise in Russian nationalism.

*Little Tenement on The Volga*, although a slim volume, is a huge book that concisely depicts the lives of Russians today. She explains to us, by using examples taken from everyday life and intergenerational experiences, the dichotomy of a society who is torn between moving forward in the spirit of *perestroika*, or backwards to the age of Stalin. Walton does not paint a happy picture, but because she has enough clever sense to take from her experiences and apply to them unbiased thought, what emerges is not a dismal dismissal of a hopeless group - but a portrait of a people that are now beginning to see the "cracks in their enclosed world."

that if any one group chooses an unviable path it will not effect the organization as a whole. And, on the contrary, if any group finds optimal methods of working, others may quickly adopt them as weapons. At present SMOT is publishing the newspa-

per BASTA, the bulletin of the Saint Petersburg group, the theoretical journal *SINDIKATY (Labor Unions)* and the *Bulletin of the SMOT Information Agency*. (Reprinted from *Basta!*)  
Igor Aleksandrovich Mangazeev, Ul. Korobkova

On Gogol Boulevard is the bulletin of the Neither East Nor West Network, which networks east and west alternative oppositions as well as prints news and documents unavailable in the corporate or "left" media. We also bring Third and Fourth (land-based indigenous) activists into these efforts. This regular OGB section in Black Fist serves the same function. We encourage all those interested in 'Neither East Nor West' type activity to regularly contribute to this section. Please address letters, reports, documents, debates, graphics, photos, etc. directly to OGB. This is not a section for anarchists only. We are interested in all things promoting freedom, such as workers', women's and lesbian/gay rights, self-determination, environmental and anti-militarist issues, as well as anything pursuing paths other than the capitalist and state bureaucratic models.

By the way, Gogol Boulevard is a hangout for Moscow's counterculture. See you there!

On Gogol Boulevard/Neither East Nor West Network  
339 Lafayette, #202, NY, NY 10012 / 718-499-7720



# Nigeria's anarchists host visitors

(From the Awareness League's REVOLUTIONARY NEWSLETTER, #1, 1994)

Edited By Lena D. Ada

In June 1993 the secretary of the International Workers Association (IWA) in Valencia, Spain, extended an invitation to the National Coordinator, comrade Samuel Mbah, of the Awareness League (AL), to the annual IWA conference. These plans however were squelched by the Spanish embassy in Nigeria - Samuel Mbah was denied a visa. In light of these events, Jose Jimenez, the IWA secretary, accompanied by Lourdes Redondo Ramajo, announced their plans to visit Nigeria on February 17th to the 24th of 1994.

Arriving on Friday the 18th, the visit quickly got underway with various meetings and sightseeing tours in and around Nigeria. The following day was the first in what was to be one of many in-depth discussions between the two delegations. Topics ranged from logistical talk on the principles and organizational framework of the IWA and anarchism/anarcho-syndicalism, to family planning and other welfare issues.

Things took an ugly turn however on Wednesday the 23rd at the University of Calabar, the scheduled meeting place. Barely one hour into the meeting three armed soldiers and two plainclothes security men burst onto the scene and surrounded the participants. Ordering their hands into the air, they threatened to shoot anyone who moved. They were then escorted to a nearby military compound and subjected to a thorough body search and subsequent beatings. After an intense round of interrogation, the film in comrade Jimenez's camera was confiscated and they were then released but instructed not to leave the city until the film was developed and examined. The following day the photos were deemed "safe" and the delegation was allowed to leave Calabar.

Three theories arose to explain these actions by the authorities. Firstly perhaps was the inherit



Olusegun Mayegun, president of the National Association of Nigerian Students, was arrested during an upheaval in May, 1992. In the African Guardian, he was quoted as saying: "The operative who slapped me apologized saying he was merely carrying out orders."

tensions in the city of Calabar itself, due to the territory disputes between Nigeria and Cameroon over the Bakassi Peninsula. Calabar geographically is the nearest town to the Bakassi Peninsula. Secondly the delegation may have been trailed all along since the arrival of the Spanish comrades. The meeting did get press coverage at the onset when they all met with members of the press at the Enugu Press center on Monday the 21st. In addition several members were detained in Calabar in 1992. The third theory arrives simply from the ban on all political and religious meetings by General Abacha's regime.

Despite these unpleasant turn of events, the visit ended on February the 24th on an encouraging note; comrade Jimenez departed Nigeria with promises to take up some of the requests made by the AL. These being help with funds for much needed office equipment as well as medicine including family planning drugs. With the AL's commitment to building a well organized and functional anarchist movement in Nigeria, the visit by the Spanish comrades was a great success. **The Awareness League, POB 1920, Enugu, Enugu State, Nigeria**



Gadansk, POLAND — Anarchist demonstration at Russian consulate protesting Russian imperialism in Chechnya.

## Anti-fascist action in Poland

By Kuba

On the 9th of November 1993, the date of the anniversary of the Nazi Kristallnacht, the Movement for an Alternative Society (RSA), along with several pacifist organizations such as Freedom and Peace (WiP), Radical Anti-Fascist Action (RAAF) and the section of young activists of the Polish Socialist Party (PPS), organized another massive demonstration against rising Neo-Fascism, keeping up with a tradition of such demonstrations going on in all of the big cities in Poland. Thanks to the wide range of organizations making this event, large numbers of people showed up (about one thousand) at the usual gathering point in the Old City. The crowd included both radical anarchist punks, pacifist hippies, young aspiring politicians, as well as simple passers-by.

The demonstration was to be absolutely legal, as the members of PPS had obtained beforehand the permission of the mayor, so the cops didn't interfere, providing however the crowd with "protection." The loudspeakers, monopolized entirely by the members of the PPS, were constantly repeating that this was to be a peaceful and legal demonstration, and that no violent provocators would be tolerated.

The crowd marched its way thru town to the center of modern Warsaw, chasing occasionally groups of stray skinheads, under the reprobatore rhetoric of apprentice politicians of the PPS, who didn't want to be associated with any form of direct action - and of the pacifists from WiP, which maintained that anti-fascists should not become as evil as the fascists themselves by beating them.

The discrepancies between the self-assigned leaders of the demonstration and the radical participants were becoming stronger, as the crowd was approaching the final destination of the march. The cops, who by then had made cordons on both sides of the street, had provoked a lot of anger and frustration in the participants, furious at the thought of being reduced to a bunch of marionettes, going from one place to another, as directed by the

authorities. After that point several attempts were made to break the police cordons and head to the skinhead organization headquarters (the National Community). Unfortunately, most of the people were greatly disoriented by the situation, and they ultimately followed the loudest calls, which were those of the PPS loudspeakers. The part of the demonstration which proved to be much more interesting began only after the members of the PPS officially called the demonstration over, which was hopefully ignored by everybody. Only then the desire to extend the demonstration all around town spread to the majority of the people, making them storm the crowd-control units, which - unprepared for such an outburst - retreated under a rain of stones, Molotov cocktails and laughter. No arrests were made during the demonstration, as the people were solidary enough to prevent this (only afterwards small dispersed groups were apprehended, but not longer than for half an hour). In the outcome, several policemen were wounded, two anarchists had a concussion, and one reporter had his backpack burned (his newspaper wrote the next day about "despicable hooligans").

All this (maybe except the concussions) made the demonstration one of the more satisfying anti-fascist demonstrations to date, making a long-awaited step beyond degenerate, legalistic walks across the city, completely bland and devoid of interest.

A newly formed group of activists, acting under the temporary name of "Group Of People Under The Influence Of Alcohol," is currently working on making all kinds of events more livelier and less easily recuperated by the mainstream, and has already organized actions such as throwing pieces of liver with red paint on the windows of the Chinese embassy on the anniversary of Tienanmen, or selling stock shares of famine in Somalia or Bosnia in front of the stock market. This seems to be badly needed — as the older generation of anarchists, burned out by the fight against the previous system, tends towards some kind of anarcho-capitalist bubble.

**CONTACT: Radical Anti-Fascist Action, POB 45, 02792 Warszawa 78, Poland**



Hungarian anarchists maintaining the struggle.

## The Anarchist Federation of Nyiregyhaza (Hungary): Who we are, what we want, what we don't

1. This group formed because we can't except the purposes of the existing political parties and tendencies. There aren't any leaders or followers in our group.

2. This group is open for people agreeing with us. We would like to be a member of the Hungarian Anarchist Federation that will be set up in the future.

3. We wish for people to be born free and to live free, without any intervention force of any sort, physical or psychological power.

4. We want free federations of spontaneously organizing, free and autonomous social groups.

5. We refuse violence with all its appearances. The state is itself violence for us.

6. We refuse to recognize any kind of (racial,

religious, sexual, national and so on) discrimination.

7. We will fight against every sort of war, fascism, and religious fanaticism in public.

8. We would like to reach our purposes by forming federations and proclaiming our ideas without force. Occasionally these will be civil disobedient and peaceful direct actions.

—ANARCHIST FEDERATION OF NYIREGYHAZA

The Anarchist Federation of Hungary was formed in Nyiregyhaza on 10 July 1993.

**Zoltan Komonyi, Nyiregyhaza, Szent Istvan U.S., 4400 Hungary**

### Letter from Gomel, Belarus

We were very pleased to receive your letter [from the U.S. Workers Solidarity Alliance]. We learned much interesting information from the documents which you have sent. It's very important for us to know what is happening in the West because our press shows the life under the conditions of classic capitalism as a realization of an Earthly paradise.

True, at present many have been disillusioned. The situation has become disastrously worse in the last months and we expect mass

protest action in the near future.

With regard to the coup committed by Yeltsin in Russia, we hastened to Moscow to appraise the situation on the spot soon after the president's decree. But Yeltsin conducted himself as a dictator dictating the interests of certain factions of the bourgeoisie and nomenclatura, and among the defenders of the White House were exclusively national communists and out-spoken fascists with swastikas on their sleeves. Our comrade Valery Soginov was arrested by fascists and passed to the

militia. Unfortunately, it failed to organize workers and a liberation resistance at that moment.

On October 1 the Second Congress of the Federation Anarchists of Belarus [FAB] was held here. On October 6 we, together with an independent trade union, held a meeting against unemployment. It closed with a skirmish with the militia. On October 30-31 the 2nd Conference of the Federation of Revolutionary Anarchists (FRAN) was held here in the city. Delegates from Moscow, Minsk, Soligorsk, Donetsk, Kharkov, Kiev,

Cherkasy, Bobruisk, Lvov and guests from Germany and Switzerland took part in it.

The results of the elections in Russia cause great alarm. However, the true essence of the victory of Zhirinovskiy will turn out a bit later.

On February 15, the nationalist organizations wanted to make a political strike. But workers didn't take part in this strike.

We wish you success in struggle with revolutionary greetings on behalf of the Gomel organization of FAB.

**Yury Glushakov, 246032 Gomel, Ul. Kozhara dom.36 Kv.74, Belarus**



## COMMENTS from page 9

ABC proposal is a sound idea in some respects and does not meet muster in other respects. It is a sound idea only if it is set up, maintained, and any accumulated funds utilized by the individual anarchist groups who maintain it for whatever the group — the group not one member nor any "committee of five" — decides to use it for to prevent any possibility of any unprincipled abuse by any one person or elite group. Each individual anarchist group should retain freedom of choice to support whomever they choose without a proclamation being issued from "on high" telling them what to do with their money. To practice anarchism is to practice FREEDOM! Nobody can be considered free with another ordering them around, mandating either a certain amount of funds be paid in each month (Anarchist dues?) to a centralized "War Chest Program" to be spent the way somebody else chooses or paying in a certain amount each week to be spent the way another chooses.

A "War Chest Program" is a good idea but only, at this time, if it is instituted and maintained locally within each anarchist group or collective. I liken the NJ ABC's war chest program proposal to be comparable to paying union dues to the United Mine Workers Union for

membership. Anarchists can damned well do without somebody's hand in our pocket and also can damned sure do without somebody telling us how to spend the money in our pockets! These type of decisions belong solely to the various individual anarchist groups and not to any of the prisoner recipients of the kindness of a stipend or other forms of material support.

### "Principles" mentioned, then Pornography?

First I read in the proposal a suggestion the "Committee of Five Prisoners" was going to make decisions based upon "principles" only to later read on to discover a whining statement (justification for pornographic addiction and hairy palms condition?) to the general effect when a prisoner requests pornography he is snubbed by the anarchist movement.

NJ ABC, if a prisoner's requests for pornography seems to inspire a distancing from the requesting prisoner by the majority of anarchists that might well be because the majority of anarchists appear to believe they are struggling to create a new society where there is true equality between the sexes, where every voice is heard (all voices, yes, even female voices), a world without male sexist gender exploitation. Most anarchists desire to someday live in a truly free society without your

version of "principled" macho chauvinistic sexist pig mentality. I hope the wishes of any "principled" prisoner requesting pornography from anarchists is granted...with pictures of Barbara Bush, Newt the Grinch's mother and Janet Reno... Furthermore, please keep your idea of "principles" to yourself.

### "Conformity and professionalism"

Now please check out Page 8 of the "ABC Network Update" for a real classic insult to all anarchists from NJ ABC under the heading "Proposed By Laws." Has Rush Limbaugh been ridiculing you or something about the colorful anarchist group names and fractured fragile egos? As far as anarchist groups changing their group's name to prevent embarrassment to the "federation," to exhibit "conformity and professionalism," I sincerely hope that most anarchist groups will summarily reject this "suggestion" (or insult?) the same as rejection of the rest of this proposal's idiocy.

I do have several comments about such a comedic suggestion to make to sum up my rant. First, a lot of the unique anarchist names are easily recognized and should not be changed because these groups have been around for quite a while. These wonderful names are both creative and colorful for a purpose. The anarchist group

names instill group pride and establish local group identity. They can be easily remembered by others and serve to capture the imaginations of others, plus are inspired creativity at its best. Keep the established anarchist group names! Dump the "proposal"!

My last comment comes in the form of a question: I know NJ ABC, and choice prisoners, might well believe this "federation" to be a marriage of sorts for anarchists but do we really have to change our names if we are stupid enough to enter into unholy wedlock with NJ ABC?

Anarchists, beware of questionable "anti-authoritarian" authoritarian proposals! I love you all, my @ brothers and sisters! They cannot get us all!

In Struggle, In Solidarity,

Harold H. Thompson, #93992

W.T.S.H.F. Unit 6-D-110

Route 2 Box 1050

Henning, Tennessee 38041-1050

[Get involved by writing anarchist class-war prisoner Thompson's support committee at the Harold H. Thompson Legal Defense Fund, Box 2213, Cleveland, Tennessee 37320-2213.]

## AMNESTY from page 8

talking about having political prisoners filing for a presidential pardon and begging for "forgiveness" for their revolutionary acts. We do not know what formula the state will use to grant amnesty (pardon, executive clemency, declaration of amnesty, habeas corpus, etc.), nor should we care as long as the State does not have the prisoners or the movement make any political compromises, and as long as they deliver the pp's/pow's from prisons alive, I want to make sure that everyone understands fully what I am talking about.

First, what is amnesty? It is a political demand on an authority, usually a government, to drop all Criminal or disciplinary charges before or after an insurrection or other act of resistance; or a demand upon the state to release all political prisoners, no matter what their offense. This latter demand is called general amnesty, but it requires serious organizing of a movement capable of challenging the state for power and uniting all insurgent movements in the American empire. In fact, we have not seen a movement like this since the Black Liberation movement of the 1960's, some 30 years ago. The fact is that we have not now reached this stage, but that we cannot wait around for that day to arrive. We must organize a movement which can free pp's/pow's now.

I am talking about a specific class of long-term political prisoners whom an amnesty campaign can be built around first: imprisoned members of the Black Panther Party and the Black Liberation Army wing of the BPP, many of whom have been imprisoned for over 20 years. This BPP/BLA campaign, however, will just be the first campaign of many to release all political prison-

ers/pow's; the truth is that we must build this movement in stages, long term BPP/BLA prisoners first, then other prisoners while we fight to dismantle the prison system itself (and the state which uses it as its major weapon).

### The State disposes, the movement reposes

There is one extremely important lesson in all of this: the state does not set the timetable for how long political prisoners stay in prison; this is entirely up to us in the support movement outside. If we can build a movement powerful enough, with a mass base that will engage in direct action to demand the freedom of pp's/pow's, then we can free practically any prisoner in custody.

The second lesson is that we cannot win a piecemeal or sectarian political prisoner defense campaign. We must build universal support for political prisoners, not just our individual political formations opportunistically using their cases. A joint amnesty campaign requires that all individual defense campaigns unite both in action and organizationally. This also means that we drop the infamous practice of "selective support" (and non-support) of certain political prisoners on sectarian grounds, and support all left-wing political prisoners without distinction. It means as well that we drop all pretense that a sectarian group, no matter how energetic their campaign may be, can by itself free a political prisoner. Rarely is this so; we must build the united front for political prisoner defense THAT comrade George Jackson spoke of in *Blood in My Eye*. Twenty weak "defense committees" simply don't do anybody any good. No rhetoric, JUST real live facts.

### A bare bones amnesty campaign

It is important first to understand that we are talking about conducting a political campaign and building a mass movement around the issue of political prisoners/pow's, and that we are not just making another paper appeal to the "conscience of the American police state, (which doesn't have a conscience anyway). This campaign would mobilize our forces into a joint amnesty group, in order to maximize our resources and our human capital. It would also expose the crimes of the state on a broad scale, for instance COINTELPRO and how it was used to smash the BPP. So here are a few things I propose:

1. A mass meeting to be held sometime within the next few months, (I am intentionally not being specific as to the date), to build a mass amnesty campaign for BPP/BLA long term prisoners. This meeting would also be a mass educational event to explain COINTELPRO to a whole new generation of activists and the people at large.

2. Begin an immediate campaign to file an International Writ of Habeas Corpus to the United Nations International Court of Justice, UN Human Rights commission and other international bodies, to demand the release of the BPP/BLA prisoners/POW's.

3. Conduct an international information campaign to expose the U.S. government's COINTELPRO, Operation CHAOS, and other such political repression of the BPP/BLA. But this information campaign should especially demand the release of all BPP/BLA prisoners now that the history of the BPP is being revisited by playwrights, authors, film makers and scholars, pre-

saging intense public interest and a new reawakening of BPP politics by youth groups.

4. Building a (political) Prisoners Defense Fund to raise money for legal defense, to support prisoners' families, and to send small amounts for prisoners' "creature comforts" while they are in prison.

5. Conduct an emergency amnesty campaign for Mumia Abu Jamal, while he is still alive on Pennsylvania death row. This case is a perfect example of how our organizational weakness might deprive this brother of his life. We must come together around this common agenda of saving him from state murder, or bear the badge of shame at our indecision and inaction.

### Conclusion

Rather than engaging in rhetoric to criticize this document or dismiss it out of hand, it is hoped that activists can constructively discuss it, and more importantly act on its prescriptions. I could not possibly, and have not sought to cover everything in this proposal. I encourage others to take this proposal, add their ideas and make it better. It won't hurt my feelings, and it is not engraved in stone. I and the Black Partisan @ Federation, a new political formation, cannot on our own make this project a reality; it requires that the majority of groups organized around the cases of political prisoners/pow's put aside egotism, opportunism, and sectarianism, and work toward the goal of freeing our political prisoners. That is all I have to say at this time.

Lorenzo Kom'boa Ervin

145 Park Drive

Decatur, GA 30030

BLACK 12 FIST

## LORENZO KOM'BOA ERVIN COMES TO HOUSTON

Former Black Panther and political prisoner Lorenzo Kom'boa Ervin will speak in Houston on the weekend of Aug. 12-13.

In the '60s, Kom'boa militantly fought Chattanooga, Tenn.'s racist establishment as a member of the Black Panther Party. He became the target of a police hit. Before it could happen, though, Kom'boa hijacked a plane to Cuba in 1969. Arriving in Havan Kom'boa was jailed in an attempt to curb Panthers from agitating the Black populace. He was soon flown to Prague and handed over to U.S. authorities. He escaped to Germany, but was soon captured. He served 16 years in prison before an international campaign won his release. Today, he is deeply involved in anarchist, anti-racist and community organizing.

Last year, Kom'boa spoke here on his experiences, his book *Anarchism and the Black Revolution* and of a movement for poor people's survival and prison abolition. For more information about events with Kom'boa, call 845-7730.

## CHAOS DAYS '95!

An American version of German punks' anarchist festival of resistance. Be in San Francisco Aug. 4-6!

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